CHINA *monthly* REVIEW

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評論報

NEW WORLD FOR WORKERS

OUR YOUNG PIONEERS

. . . Grace Liu and Betty Chang

May 1953

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密勒氏
評論報

May 1953

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LETTERS
From the People

Comments from readers on current topics are cordially invited: their opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the views of the *China Monthly Review*.

Copies Withheld

To the Editor:

This is to advise you that the most recent issue received was the August number. I have not been receiving my copies for some months now. It certainly does seem that the mails are being tampered with without due process of law. I, for one, have so protested to the Chief Inspector of the US Post Office.

It does seem to be a bitter shame that we in this country have a news blackout from almost one-third of the earth. However we are able to get some information, or at least more than we are able to learn about new China, in regard to Eastern European and other Socialist countries. However, this is not the case about new China as there are very few publications in this country that care to print the true existing situation.

D. E.

Massachusetts, USA

Old Chinese Friends

To the Editor:

Have just received the Review for which many thanks. It's wonderful how everything is turning out according to preconceived plans in spite of the parasites wanting to turn the wheel of history back to the dark ages.

In the 80's of the last century only the Chinese would give me a job in the fruit fields of California; furthermore, only they would offer me a tub for a bath, because the superior white trash did not know or care what a bath meant in those days.

W. L. R.

Vista, Calif.

People Will Win

To the Editor:

About two years ago I had an interview with the Editor-in-Chief of the Review. Asked if the magazine had any trouble in getting to readers in the US, he replied, "For the time being, no trouble." The last two years have brought forth a tremendous, unpleasant change. Now the American imperialists have stooped so low as to prevent the Review from reaching its readers.

To interfere with truth-carrying publications is a milestone along the road of the people's enemy to his

(Continued on Page 6)

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Letter from a Workhouse, USA

THE following letter was sent to Mrs. Grace Liu of Tientsin by Steve Nelson, who was sentenced to 20 years in a common workhouse under the State Sedition Act in Pennsylvania. Mr. Nelson, who is a leader of the Communist Party in that state, was denied the right of counsel during the trial, and he was not allowed to post bail. In the indictment no specific counts were given against Nelson, and as the columnist I. F. Stone wrote, "The indictment might as well have read, [Nelson] did incite and encourage Whatchamaycall'im to commit Whatdoyucallit.' "—Editor

* * *

Dear Mrs. Liu:

Yours was the first letter I received from People's China since I have been in prison. Thanks a million.

I know of course that the China Federation of Labor reacted to my case, and its affiliates sent protests against my frame-up to the various authorities demanding my freedom, as did others in various parts of the world. It seems that these protests have had some useful effect at this end, so that a partial victory was registered in my case this week.

I am to go out on $20,000 bail pending appeal. My supporters and friends of peace are elated and feel along with me that this small victory shows what even greater ones can be scored if the people fight more energetically than ever, for peace in Korea, for trade and peaceful co-existence with USSR, New Democracies and People's China.

By the time you get this letter, I hope I'll be out of jail, as well as my 13 Communist friends, C. P. leaders who have just been convicted and given sentences from two to four years each and fines from $2,000 to $16,000 each, in New York. However, on February 24, I and four other Communist leaders are going on another trial, here in Pittsburgh, this time charged by the federal government and can get five more years, though I am now under a 20 year sentence.

This will be my fourth trial in five years. What is my "crime"? I fought for peace in the world, and for an end to the shameful imperialist war in Korea. I believe in and fight for socialism. I owned Marxist books, and am a leader of the C. P. here. I fought fascism in Spain in 1937.

Thank you for your interest. My warmest to the great people of China.

STEVE NELSON

Telling the Folks

IN New Zealand and Australia the delegates to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference held in Peking last autumn have been active in telling their fellow-countrymen about the peace conference and conditions in new China.

Two of the delegates from New Zealand and two from Australia have written the REVIEW describing the reception they received:

* * *

Mrs. Cassie Corbin, public school teacher in Australia: At my first public meeting we had a setback, when we went to get the key to the hall we were told that the booking was cancelled. This cancellation caused quite a stir in the local paper, with all sorts of folk rushing in to my defense . . . the letters and articles went on for nearly three weeks, and so we plucked up courage and booked another hall. We had about 50 folk at this meeting, many of them we had never seen before, and we finished the meeting by forming a peace committee.

Since my arrival I have addressed 25 meetings, some large, some small. The ones I have enjoyed best were the lunch-hour meetings at the factory gates, especially the wharfies. I am going up to Newcastle to speak to the miners.

On summing up my feelings about the trend of the peace movement here in Australia, I would say that the Peking Conference has had a greater effect than either the First or Second World Peace Congresses. I can't say about the reactions of the people to the Vienna Congress as delegates have not yet returned.

The questions I have been asked at meetings have been intelligent, and people seem very eager to hear as much as possible about China. There has been very little heckling, which I think is a good sign; it really does mean that people are beginning to realize that they have got to listen to folk who return from behind the "iron curtain."

* * *

Helen G. Palmer, teacher and member of the New South Wales' Teachers' Federation in Australia: Since our return I've put in a solid five weeks' talking; we were delighted to find that so much work was organized for us; the others, according to their availability, have done the same. Most meetings are small—600 was my largest (with Canon Maynard) and 12 the smallest.

There's definite interest and sympathy with China, and in general national independence . . . So although we haven't made history, I feel we've done a good deal of solid work; it has cumulative results and effects.

The general policy was to clamp down on any publicity—no one got a line in the paper, not even Mrs. Lapwood, because she didn't say the right things.

* * *

Harold W. Youren, New Zealand

About New China

barrister and solicitor; sheep farmer: As far as the meetings are concerned I don't think any one of us has struck a hostile audience. Personally my audiences have been most interested and attentive and have always asked plenty of sensible truth-seeking questions. I am not accustomed to speaking to working men but had, for example, a most enthusiastic meeting among the dockers at our little port of Napier—about 200 of them.

At the same time we have all of us had to face a cynical or hostile press which always prints the word "peace" in inverted commas.

Mrs. Garland, Allan Monteith and a local Anglican Dean spoke at the public meeting in the Wellington (our capital) Town Hall to an audience of about 500. A resolution was unanimously adopted urging the government to do everything possible to negotiate a cease-fire in Korea and asking that the truce talks be taken out of the hands of the military. No newspaper reported this meeting although reporters were present.

My movie films of China and the conference have proved most successful. Even the sequences taken in the Conference Hall have come out excellently as well as a color film of scenic spots such as the West Lake, the Great Wall, Pei Hai and the Summer Palace. There is also first-rate record in black-and-white of our visit to one of the villages near Peking. Altogether they run about an hour and I am showing them to groups of people wherever possible. I think a valuable film could be made of the care and love that is being lavished by the new government on the old monuments of Chinese culture.

* * *

Margaret Garland, New Zealand housewife and sculptor: The New Zealand delegates have been able to address many meetings, private and public since returning from China. None of them have been allowed to speak on the air, however. Public meetings have been well attended.

At the university students' summer school congress I was invited to speak on cultural interchange with special reference to China, which made a great impression, and resolutions passed by the students included a demand that the New Zealand government recognize the people's government of China, for a cease-fire in Korea, and for a Five Power Pact.

Great interest is taken by the public everywhere in matters relating to China and we have had most sympathetic hearings and are still getting them. It is impossible to doubt that all of our combined efforts have made a big impression on public opinion and that the Peace Conference was well worthwhile. The delegates are still hard at it and are being asked to address audiences all the time. It is hoped that a book on my travels in China and the Conference will be published before long.

LETTERS

(Continued from Page 2)

doom. Years ago, in China, Chiang attempted to keep the people from being informed; the more crimes he committed, the more he feared the unveiling of his real complexion. The Truman-Dulles-Eisenhower Tomorrow is the Chiang Today.

I agree with the editors of the **Review** that the American people will surely be victorious in the struggle for the right to read and think what they choose, and for the freedom to receive truth-carriers, as the Chinese people are now.

CHOW HAN-LING

Changchow, Kiangsu

Argentina Letter

To the Editor:

There is a little Welsh colony situated here, on a barren and formerly uninhabited part of Patagonia. As in China, this little piece of country has changed a good deal since its inauguration some 85 years ago, but I guess it's nothing in comparison to what China has experienced these last three years.

All these improvements in the conditions of living in China should bring shame to the faces of the pretentious "Christians" who exploited all the "backward countries" of the world. Well I remember, at my home in Wales, how the chapel people did their share to collect money for the "mission" in China and India, etc. Of course the ordinary people of the villages were quite ignorant of what the real facts of the world were, and did their best to help honestly, but by now, more light has come to clarify the situation.

The laboring class in Wales were just having enough to barely keep alive, just like the poor Chinese. My poor father could never get out of debt, though a very good worker, a teetotaler, and an earnest and conscientious fellow. He did not fail to contribute to the collection to help the "poor Chinese".

E. R. W.

Argentina

Yunnan's Miners

To the Editor:

In the old society, the greatest worry for the miners of Ko-Kin was the wretched living conditions of their dependents, mostly peasants. After land reform, many of these dependents were given land and horses, cows and farming tools. Hundreds of letters were received from the miners' homes, telling with excitement about this event. Fathers, sons and brothers were so overjoyed at this good news that they pledged to produce more tin for their country.

Worker Yung Fong-tai formerly had no land at all; now his family has been allotted four mou of arable land, an ox and farm utensils. In the letter his father urged him to work harder—urging which is hardly needed.

The family of Li Hei-sheng, another miner, lived in a dilapidated hut in which they suffered much in the rainy season. Now they have three comfortable rooms, including a kitchen. On hearing the news, miner Li literally jumped for joy.

Miner Yang Cheng-ping rushed out to buy pictures of Chairman Mao and General Chu. He said, "I want my family to remember our great leaders all the time."

LEE KO

Ko-Kin, Yunnan

The Month in Review

- *A Budget for Peace*
- *Settlement of Pre-War Deposits*

A Budget for Peace

NINETEEN fifty-three ushers in China's first Five-Year Plan and budget appropriations for this year indicate clearly that China is planning for peace, rather than war. New factories, railways, roads, flood control projects, schools, hospitals and rural improvements are slated to take about 60 percent of the budgets, while the military's share comes to a little more than 22 percent.

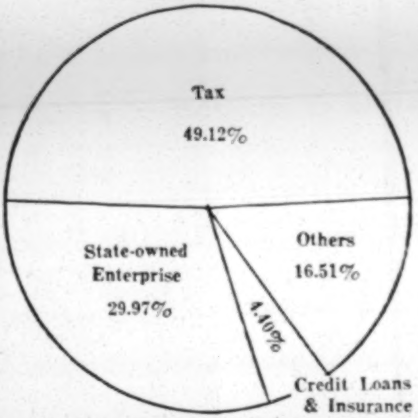
A closer look at the figures shows that 20.4 percent of total expenditures will go for industrial expansion, 14.9 percent for educational, social and cultural work, and 23.94 percent for forestry, irrigation, communications and public works.

This year's budget, as was last year's, is balanced. Of particular interest is a breakdown of sources of income. While peasants' taxes accounted for 29.63 percent of total revenue in 1950, this year their tax payments will amount to less than 15 percent of the state's total revenue. On the other hand, taxes and profits from the rapidly expanding state-owned sector of the economy are going up.

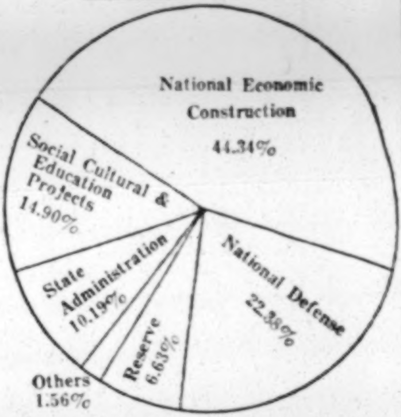
Another interesting point is that while the percentage of the tax burden borne by private enterprise has fallen, the actual amount of taxes paid has gone up—not from an increase in the tax rate but because of the growth of private industrial and commercial firms,

CHINA'S BUDGET FOR 1953

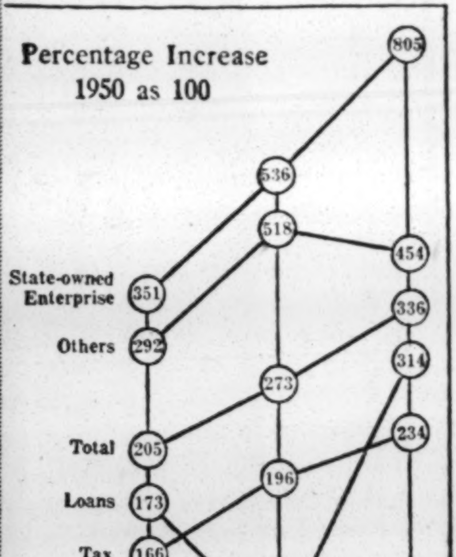
REVENUE



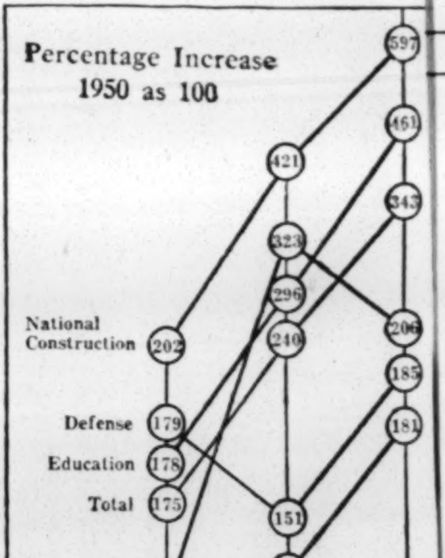
EXPENDITURE



REVENUES 1950-1953

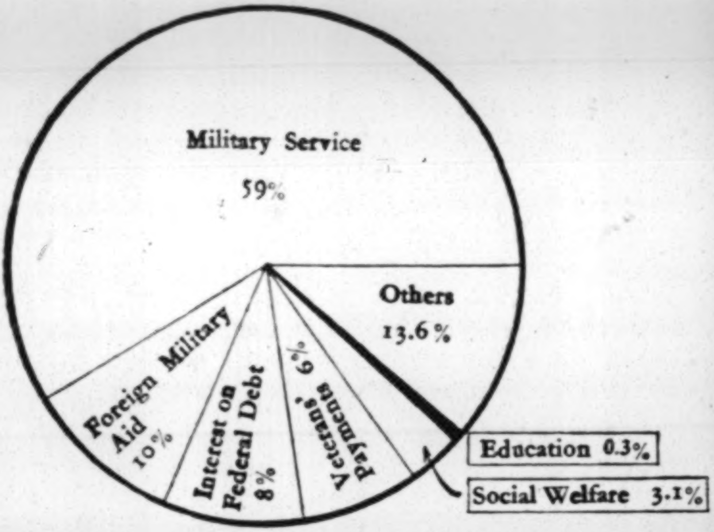


EXPENDITURES 1950-1953

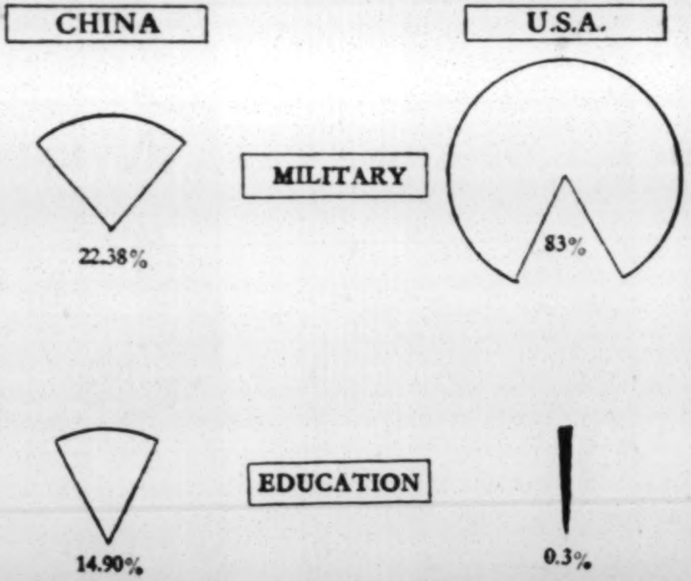


U.S.A. BUDGET FOR 1953-1954

EXPENDITURE



EXPENDITURES IN CHINA & U.S.A. FOR 1953

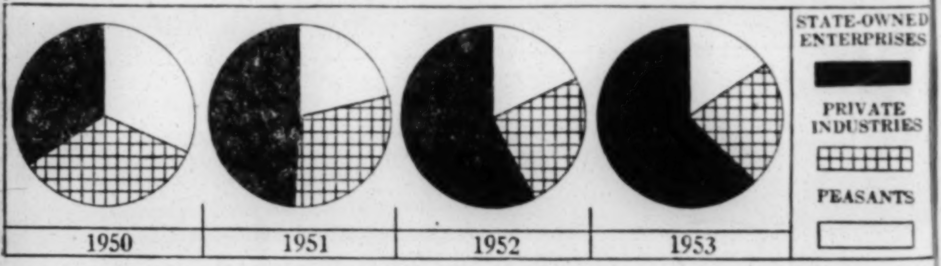


both in number and size and the general increase in the amount of business handled by them. For example, reports from the country's seven largest cities all reveal an increase in the number of private industrial and commercial houses.

The budget, totaling ¥223,499,100,000,000 (approximately US$8,596,000,000) is considerably larger than last year's, which came to ¥163,218,600,000,000. The increase has been made possible by the raised production targets for this year. According to present plans, grain output will be up about nine percent over last year, totaling 210,000,000 tons. Cotton will be up 16 percent, tobacco 47 percent, tea 16 percent, while electric power output is scheduled to rise by 27 percent, cotton yarn by nine percent and sugar by 23 percent.

Not only is the economy expanding, but similar increases are expected in virtually all aspects of life. This year will see more people in school than ever before in China's history. Fifty million children will attend primary school, 2,710,000 secondary school, while enrollment in universities, normal colleges and higher technical schools is expected to reach 917,000.

SOURCE OF CHINA'S TAX REVENUE



Aside from the fact that this is clearly a peace budget which concentrates on overall expansion of the economy and the providing of a better life for the Chinese people, it reflects the fact that the new republic, now rounding out its fourth year of existence, is a well-established, going concern.

Settlement of Pre-War Deposits

ONE of the most significant steps taken by the government recently was the promulgation of regulations for the refunding of pre-war and war-time bank deposits which had been wiped out by the inflation which ravaged China from 1937 until the liberation of the country in 1949-50.

Beginning shortly after the outbreak of the Japanese invasion in 1937, the inflation moved slowly at first but, as the years passed without any effective countermeasures being taken by the old Kuomintang government, China's currency depreciated so rapidly that the old expression "not worth the paper it's printed on" became literally true.

The situation was additionally complicated by the fact that in the Japanese-controlled areas, Kuomintang currency was outlawed and forcibly exchanged—at a discount—for Japanese-sponsored puppet currency. Then, following the Japanese surrender, this puppet currency was outlawed by the Kuomintang.

By the summer of 1948, the old paper money, known as CNC, became so worthless that hundreds of thousands of dollars were required for even the smallest of purchases. The Kuomintang attempted to solve the problem by calling in CNC and issuing a new paper currency, called Gold Yuan. As no basic monetary or economic reforms accompanied this move, the new Gold Yuan soon began to depreciate even faster than its predecessor. By the spring of the following year when Shanghai was liberated, the Gold Yuan was even more worthless than the original CNC had been. At that time, for instance, a copy of the **Review** sold for Gold Yuan 4,000,000.

People who had "fixed" or "term" deposits in banks which they could not withdraw when the inflation began, holders of life insurance policies and bonds and other debentures, saw their savings disappear. Borrowers and debtors whose transactions went back to war-time or even to pre-war days were never able to reach agreement for settling their accounts.

The old Kuomintang government avoided this issue, partly because it lived off inflation and partly because any settlement would have involved repayment of huge sums by its own banks, trust companies and other financial institutions, not to mention its own sizable public bond issues. Therefore, although there was always much talk about setting a conversion rate, no decision was ever made, the matter merely being kept "under consideration" from one year to the next.

Now, the problem has been settled with three conversion rates established by the government, dividing the more than decade-long inflation into three separate periods. Prior to December 31, 1937, from January 1, 1938 to August 19, 1948 (when the KMT called in CNC and issued its Gold Yuan "reform" currency) and from August 20, 1948, until the time of liberation.

This step, which the new government could easily have declined to take on the grounds that it was not responsible for the inflation and therefore not responsible for these old debts, is indicative of the new government's attitude toward the public. That this will cost the people's government a sizable sum is evident from the fact that it has assumed responsibility for the accounts in a number of the old Kuomintang banks despite the fact that the KMT, prior to its flight, looted these institutions of their gold and silver bullion reserves and other movable assets so that about all the new government inherited were buildings, fixtures and debts.

It is impossible not to note that one of the Kuomintang's—a regime avowedly representing the interests of the propertied classes—charges against the liberation movement was that the Communist-led revolution was an attack upon private property. Yet, the Kuomintang was never willing to make a settlement with these very propertied classes for the funds it took from them by its deliberate policy of inflation. And today, we see the new Communist-led united front government undertaking just such a settlement.

◆

COVER PICTURE

"Printers," a woodcut by Ch'en Shu-liang.

CLASH OF EMPIRES

— US moves in on Britain's Southeast Asian strongholds —

Robert Westgate

"We countries of the Commonwealth have taken the initiative in this enterprise. But we certainly desire no monopoly."—*Mr. Hugh Gaitskell, U.K. Minister of State for Economic Affairs, at a meeting in London on September 25, 1950, of the Colombo Plan COMMONWEALTH Consultative Committee.*

*

" . . . . . my Government is proud to be taking part in this inspired and inspiring enterprise."—*Sir Clifford Norton, U.K. representative, referring in the UN General Assembly on October 31, 1952, to the work of the Colombo Plan INTERNATIONAL Consultative Committee.*

WITH the evolution of the Colombo Plan from a "Commonwealth" to an "international" venture another chapter has been recorded in the post-war struggle between Britain and the United States.

British denials of any monopoly intentions in their plans to intensify exploitation of under-developed countries have given way to ostensibly joyous proclamations at their acceptance into the great venture as junior partners. And the Americans are setting about using the Colombo Plan as a convenient adjunct to their own Point Four Program, as a means of opening Commonwealth countries to US financial penetration and thereby aiming yet another blow at rival British interests.

From the moment when, in January, 1949, Truman in his inaugural address announced a "bold new program" for American investment in under-developed areas, it became certain that it would simply be a matter of time before Britain launched its own similar plan.

Precisely because they had so much in common, the US Point Four Program and the British-sponsored Colombo Plan were from the outset destined to develop as irreconcilable rivals: both had their origin in the compelling necessity to devise new and more efficient means of ensuring markets and sources of raw materials.

Countless Americans have spoken with perfect frankness on the aims of Point Four as a keynote of the US administration's foreign economic policies. Two contributions—the Gray "Report to the President" published in November, 1949, and the Rockefeller report, "Partners in Progress," which appeared in March, 1951—are virtual textbooks in this connection and masterpieces of that incredible exercise in American diplomacy, undressing in public.

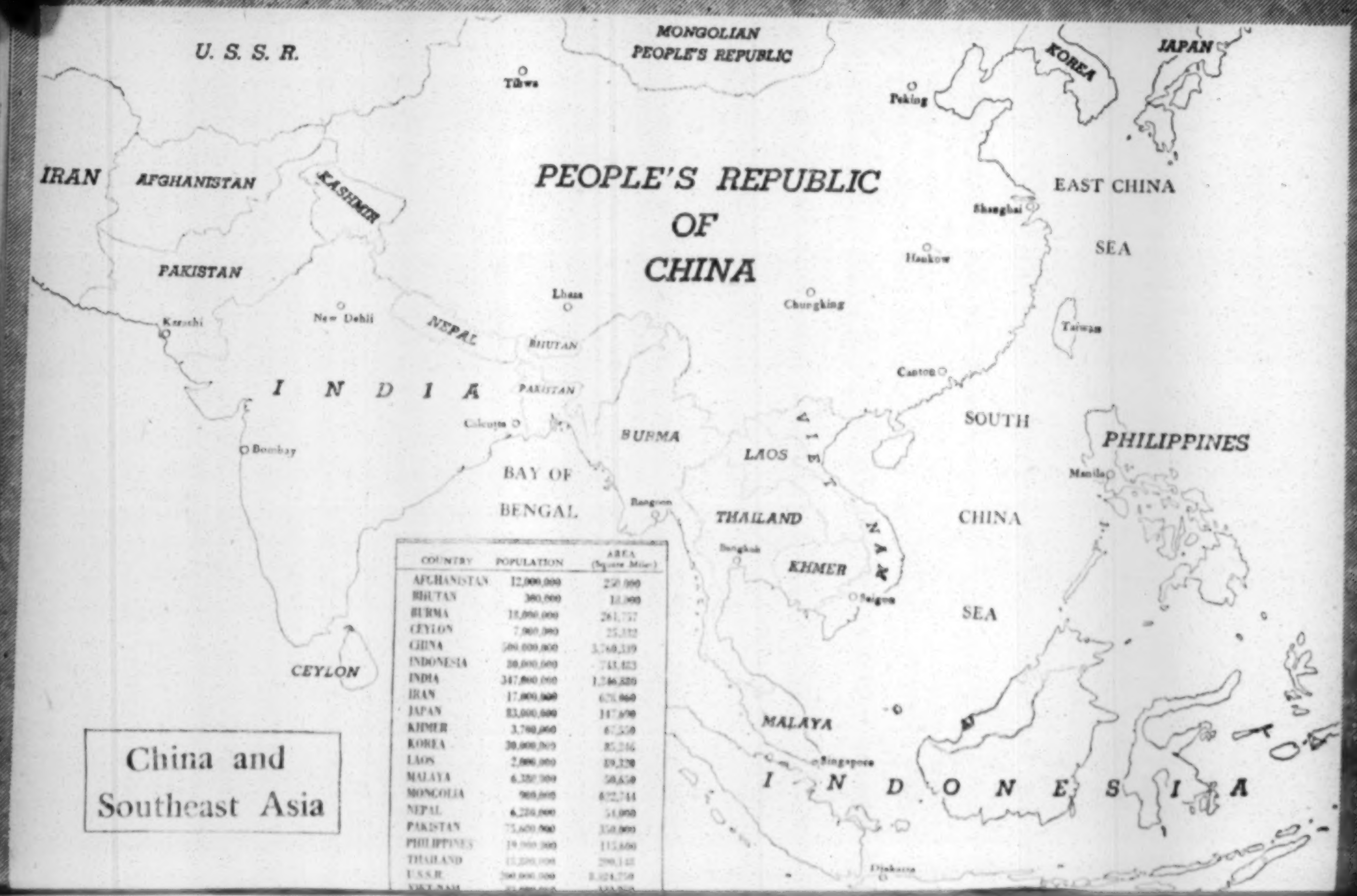
Mr. August Maffrey, vice-president of the Irving Trust Company of New York, who was a member of the committee which assisted in the preparation of the Rockefeller report expressed concern in a speech on May 25, 1951, at the "pronounced tendency of our processing and fabricating capacity to outrun available supplies of raw materials" and declared: "We must in our own interest help other countries to develop their resources *so that they can supply larger quantities of crude and semi-finished products to us.*"

Later in an article in the September 22, 1952, issue of the US Department of State Bulletin, Mr. W. Malenbaum, Chief of the State Department's Investment and Economic Development Staff, who has acted as US representative on the Colombo Plan Consultative Committee, declared that America is "deeply interested" in the plan—as it now exists—and explained:

"South and Southeast Asia are important sources of basic materials which are essential, in growing quantities, to the economic welfare of the western world. The growing populations in the area can generate a large demand for the goods and services of the more developed parts of the world." Mr. Malenbaum also lauded the "realistic spirit" shown by the "planning countries" in their readiness to alter programs not favored by investors such as the US. An example of this type of "realism" was the recent scaling down of even the paltry sum earmarked for industrial development in the Indian five-year plan.

Frequently in United Nations debates US and British spokes-

ROBERT WESTGATE, a New Zealand newspaperman, in 1947 was the New Zealand winner of the Lord Kemsley Empire Scholarship in Journalism. Mr. Westgate is now in London.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PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
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KHMER
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Singapore
INDONESIA
Djakarta

China and Southeast Asia

COUNTRY	POPULATION	AREA (Square Miles)
AFGHANISTAN	12,000,000	250,000
BHUTAN	300,000	18,000
BURMA	18,000,000	261,757
CEYLON	7,900,000	25,332
CHINA	500,000,000	3,760,339
INDONESIA	80,000,000	743,823
INDIA	347,000,000	1,246,880
IRAN	17,000,000	628,000
JAPAN	83,000,000	147,690
KHMER	3,700,000	67,550
KOREA	30,000,000	85,246
LAOS	2,000,000	89,320
MALAYA	6,300,000	50,650
MONGOLIA	900,000	622,744
NEPAL	6,220,000	54,000
PAKISTAN	75,600,000	350,000
PHILIPPINES	19,000,000	115,600
THAILAND	18,200,000	200,148
U.S.S.R.	200,000,000	8,324,750
VIET-NAM	[illegible]	[illegible]

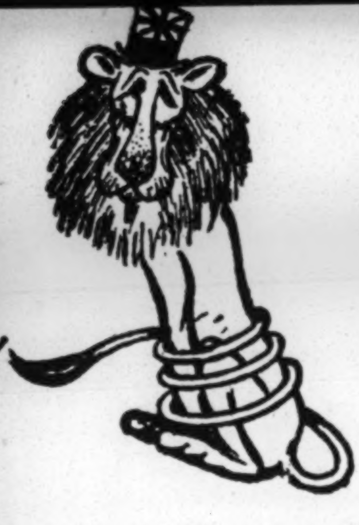
men have openly expressed their opposition to "ambitious" industrialization plans in the under-developed countries and, as the December Commonwealth Conference made clear, Britain is currently endeavoring to force Dominions like Australia and New Zealand to become mere producers of food and raw materials and provide safe markets for British manufactures.

When the British officials surveyed the South and Southeast Asian scene in the original Colombo Plan they saw much the same as Mr. Malenbaum sees and coveted it equally. A "popular" version of the plan issued by the then Commonwealth Consultative Committee sought to whet the appetite of every British imperialist, from the Colonel Blimps to the new Fabian defenders of colonialism:

"There are," the pamphlet 'New Horizons in the East' said, "over 570,000,000 people living in the area—for the most part hard-working men and women of simple dignity and faith . . . the area plays a big part in world trade. Before the war it provided almost all the world's exports of jute and rubber, more than three-quarters of the tea, almost two-thirds of the tin, and one-third of the oils and fats. These key products have for generations flowed into the great trade routes. . . . In exchange the countries of South and Southeast Asia obtain from the West the industrial products which they so badly need. . . ."

It was in no way surprising when, as long ago as February, 1951, the American Chamber of Commerce in London posed the question as to how long the "over-lapping" Point Four and Colombo Plans could remain separate. This speculation was unmistakably significant since at the time there was anything but "over-lapping" in the sense of duplication in the two programs. On the contrary, the American attitude was notoriously one of a steadfast refusal to provide what alone could make the Colombo Plan work—outside finance. Of the original projected six-year expenditure of £1,870,000,000, America was counted on to provide some £700,000,000.

Experienced in many things, however, British imperialism was not unaquainted with some of the better known disadvantages of receiving American financial "aid." Accordingly the *Economist* in its issue of March 3, 1951, hastened to explain that there was "no reason to adopt in Asia the precise methods of the Marshall Plan, and the British have justifiably felt that there is a strong case for asking that if any new American aid is granted to southern Asia—either under the Colombo Plan or in association with it—this money should consist of free



dollars, expendable anywhere." Only one thing could have been more astonishing than this British plea for American dollars to strengthen a rival—American willingness to do so.

When it was made clear early in 1951 that the US had no intention of giving financial backing to the Colombo Plan, the *Manchester Guardian* expressed bitter disappointment at this "unexpected" development and appealed to the Americans to see the merit of the plan as a means by which the Asian countries "would avoid the feeling that they were client states of the United States and overcome their fear that there would be political strings attached to loans."

Twelve months later the *Guardian* was still nursing its disappointment and in commenting on the report of the first year of the Colombo Plan rebuked the Americans for preferring Chiang Kai-shek to Churchill:

"The report has rather little to say about American aid. . . The allocation of American aid still strikes some spectators as strange. Since June, 1950, 60 percent of all the American economic aid for Southeast Asia has gone to Formosa [Taiwan]."

Denied American finance, with only the most trifling assistance from the other Commonwealth countries and with most of the British contribution coming from the blocked sterling balances of the Asian Dominions—and therefore constituting "external finance" actually from the resources of the countries supposed to benefit under the program—the Colombo Plan was no more than a monument to the dashed hopes of the British empire when it was "internationalized" in March of last year.

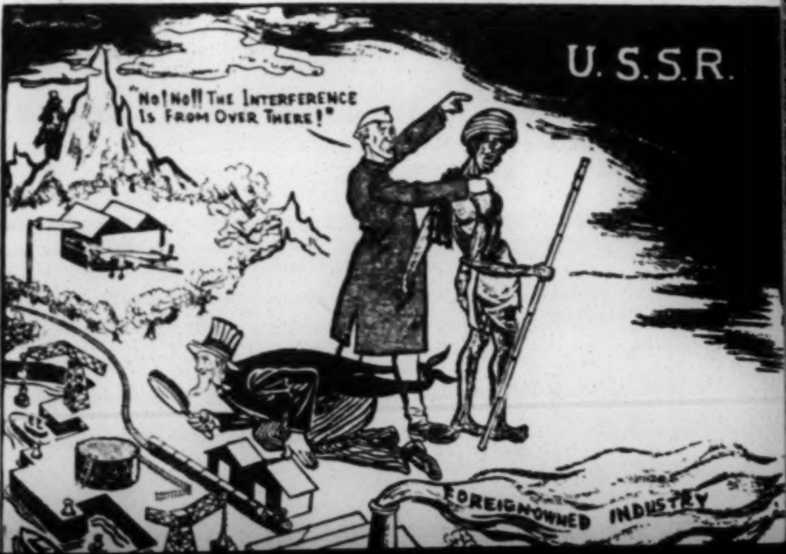
Sir Arthur Morse achieved a masterpiece of understatement when he told shareholders of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on March 7, 1952, that "the original report [of the Colombo Plan] . . . no longer accurately describes the scheme of things now existent . . . included in the general scope of the Plan [now] are the extensive measures undertaken by the United States Government in the same area." That is, the Colombo Plan has become no more than an adjunct of Point Four and the whole master-program—for America finance capital.

While US investments are rapidly increasing in all the countries of the area—including Malaya and other British possessions—the latest official British round-up on the progress of "technical cooperation" under the Colombo Plan solemnly records as a major contribution toward opening up new horizons in the East: "Back numbers are being obtained of scientific publications of learned societies for the National Chemical Laboratory, Poona."

The untidy "over-lapping" that so irritated the orderly minds of those who comprise the American Chamber of Commerce in London has been remedied and legions of US "special assistants," "technicians" and "advisers" are swarming through South and Southeast Asia bent upon ensuring raw materials for America's war industries and profits for her industrialists.

The whole blow against the British empire has been a well-aimed one. In July 1951, the Americans achieved a key initial goal under an Anglo-American agreement empowering "British overseas territories to deal directly with the United States in accepting aid under President Truman's Point Four plan." Thus, in expressing the new-found American enthusiasm for the Colombo Plan, Mr. Malenbaum in the article already referred to described as "most important of all" the fact that "the tradition already established at the Consultative Committee meetings" leaves "governmental committments entirely within the area of bilateral discussions."

From the newsweekly *Blitz*, Bombay.


U.S.S.R.
"No! No!! The Interference Is From Over There!"
FOREIGN-OWNED INDUSTRY

For the Americans the fly in the ointment is, of course, the growing resistance of the South and Southeast Asian peoples to all imperialist plans—whether American, British or French. The new China is already showing how the great and abundant wealth of the Asian soil and forests can be exploited for the benefit of the Asian people.

The "safe climates" that some Asian governments are assiduously endeavoring to guarantee to American investments can only speed the great movement of all the Asian peoples for freedom and the right to living standards commensurate with the enormous wealth of which they have been robbed for so long.

RUBBER BARONS QUARREL

BRITISH financial interests have been fuming over the drop in Malayan rubber and tin prices brought on by US manipulation, and the British press has placed the blame on Washington for Malaya's deteriorating economy.

Referring to weakening rubber prices which have led to a fall in much-needed dollar earnings, Tory Lord Beaverbrook's *Daily Express* last September pointed out that the US-imposed rubber embargo had forced prices down. "By vast government investment . . . the Americans have created a synthetic rubber industry in their own country. And it is a fixed American policy to use that industry as a big stick to beat Malaya. They stop buying natural rubber in order to force Malayan prices down . . . "

The liberal *Manchester Guardian* has noted: "The huge dollar deficit of the sterling area . . . has clearly been aggravated by the decision of the US government to monopolize tin and rubber imports, to stop all tin purchases, and sharply reduce rubber purchases in Malaya . . . Britain is forced by the US government to buy cotton at 44 cents which costs less than 10 cents to produce. Where are the real cartellists?"

Official figures released at the beginning of this year reveal that Malayan rubber exports for 1952 dropped to 901,000 tons as compared to 1,155,246 tons in 1951.

New World for Workers

Julian Schuman

GOING from city to city in China, large and small, one cannot help being struck by the fact that life for the workers and their families is getting better. Hand in hand with the expansion of the Chinese economy and national construction is the visible growth of housing projects and social amenities which the worker never had before.

Whether it is a vast housing project taking up 2,600,000 square meters of formerly barren land in the industrial city of Shenyang (Mukden), homes for 100,000 Shanghai workers, or newly finished cream-colored two-storied brick buildings for workers in sunny Canton in the south, the fact is that it has all come about since liberation, for the old China neither thought nor cared about such things. Add to this clubs, sanitoriums, homes for the aged and vacation resorts for workers and the picture of the new life for workers comes into focus.

Thousands of workers in China, out of the millions who have to be re-housed, have already moved into new homes. It is physically impossible to conquer overnight the heritage which condemned working people to live in the poorest sections of a city where their antiquated ramshackle dwellings lacked electricity and running water. However, along with the new housing everywhere local governments have set about improving roads, water supply, electricity and sewage systems as a temporary stopgap until all housing needs can be met.

What can be done in improving even the worst carryovers of the old, with the cooperation of the people, is made clear by

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JULIAN SCHUMAN, the Review's Associate Editor, recently returned to Shanghai from a six-weeks' trip which took him as far north as Shenyang (Mukden) in China's Northeast (Manchuria) and down south to Canton.—Editor.

Workers and their families moving into the Tsao Yang Housing Development in Shanghai.

the accomplishment of the people in a slum area of Nanking.

WHILE the design may differ, some buildings may be three stories and others two, housing developments in all cities are planned. In addition to big, well-lighted rooms with kitchen and lavatory, there are always those features which make for a well-knit community in itself: the cooperative store, the food market, postoffice, bath-house and bank. There are also nurseries, kindergartens and schools, clinics and hospitals, cinemas and small social clubs. Housing developments are situated well enough away from factories and mills to avoid the smoke and noise.

Trees and lawns are an integral part of all developments. For example, in the huge Shenyang project 25 percent was to be taken up by buildings, while the rest would include a large park and lawn space. When I visited Shenyang there were two big housing projects under way, one for industrial workers and the other for construction workers. The three-storied red brick buildings were designed to get the most sunlight. Every building had four bedrooms on each floor, 15-16 square meters in space with a large clothes closet, and two kitchens with gas and two lavatories per floor. To meet the intensely cold Northeast winters there was steam heating, hot and cold running water and double-glass windows.

IN Shanghai, I visited the Tsao Yang Housing Development early last November. The first part of this large-scale project, planned to accommodate 100,000 people when entirely finished, was opened last summer. More than 20,000 people have moved into these well-appointed, two-story houses with room for six families, three downstairs and three upstairs, with private lavatories, modern conveniences and common kitchens.

What decent housing means in Shanghai, where before liberation the city's more than 1,000,000 workers' shabby and run-down hovels ranked with the worst anywhere in the world, was seen by talking to some of the people who have moved into Tsao Yang.

There is woman textile worker Wen Tsung-yao who for more than 30 years lived in a windowless straw hut which was never dry and into which the sunlight never entered. Cooking normally had to be done out of doors, but when it rained the small stove had to be moved indoors, resulting in the place being filled with smoke and soot. Of her seven children, three died in childhood while the others were constantly sick and unhealthy.

For her present flat of two airy rooms, with a private lavatory and a kitchen which she shares with two other families, Wen Tsung-yao pays 50 percent less rent than she paid in her old place. The rent in Tsao Yang, she said, comes to about five percent of a worker's monthly income.

Then there was Chiu Yung-liang who works in a weaving mill. His new quarters are such a change from the small wooden boat in crowded Soochow Creek where he lived with his family that when he tells of it his face is a combination of frowns and smiles depending on which aspect he talks about. The boat he and his family lived on was only 20 feet long. Hot in summer and wet in winter, there was barely enough space for all to stretch out at night. His family has been workers for three generations, Chiu says with pride, and this is the first time any of them had a decent place to live in.

FROM Shanghai to Canton, passing through the flat northern countryside or the ever-present green of the south, are to be found clusters of newly-built dormitories or small brick houses for workers, their neatly plotted gardens coming into clear view as the speeding train slows down to pass or stop at a small station on the way.

In Canton a newly completed workers' housing project has a new clubhouse just a stone's throw away. This clubhouse is a large two story building, of which more than 3,000 workers are very proud. It is part of the project which contains new homes for families and dormitories for single workers.

From the sun porches on the second floor of the dormitories and apartments, workers can look across to their new clubhouse surrounded by a big athletic field with the rolling green Canton hills in the background. The clubhouse, with a balcony upstairs, has a cinema with seats for 1,400, and once every evening and several times on Saturdays and Sundays movies are shown. Saturday night dances are held and on special occasions the theater puts on plays and operas.

Alongside the modern clubhouse with its typical upswung Chinese roof are the new primary school, kindergarten and nursery. Mothers working in factories or offices can leave their young children here if need be during the week and pick them up to take home on Saturdays for the week-end.

NANKING, once Chiang Kai-shek's capital, has its new workers' housing and clubs. And like every big city it also has its share of the slums left over from the old. The story of one of these slums is the story of how human beings, forced to exist in the most squalid surroundings of old China, have today—with the help of their government—made their neighborhood a place fit to live in.

Like so many slum areas the world over, Wu Lao district lies along the railroad tracks. Nanking is a big and beautiful city, its upper-class homes were elegant and its main streets were well laid out. But in those old days thousands of people were doomed to live out their existence in places such as Wu Lao.

In the newly set-up reading room for the nearly 1,000 people who live here, Wang Wei-hua, who is in charge of hygiene work, pointed with pride to the vivid posters on the walls which depict conditions before. In his own bitter words, the area was filthy from one end to the other, "and the ditch running through the district was a great stinking pool." All kinds of refuse and garbage were thrown in. Knowledge of hygiene was something the old government was not interested in spreading among the people.

Part of the cause for the former plight of those living here —chiefly food vendors, itinerant workers and pedicab drivers— was that Wu Lao lies in a low area and in rainy weather it became a muddy morass, and water would rise so high at times in and around the dwellings that young children would be put in wooden tubs to keep them dry and safe. Sometimes, however, children fell into the four-foot deep ditch running through Wu Lao and were drowned.

Before liberation the residents repeatedly asked the municipal government for repairs and help in cleaning up and filling in the place, but nothing was done, Wang Wei-hua said. More than 60 percent of the people were malaria victims. Flies were a constant plague, bringing disease and great discomfort. Wang smiled grimly when he told of how on hot sultry Nanking summer nights people were afraid to eat anything out of doors because they might swallow the mosquitoes which filled the air.

I asked Wang how all this had been cleaned up, for as we walked around Wu Lao it was hard to imagine former conditions. Before he answered, he stopped and pointed to a large green cabbage patch belonging to one resident and told me that not long ago this had been marshy ground with a stagnant pool.

Returning to my question, Wang said that the first thing that was done after liberation was the repairing of the roads and the installation of proper sewage and electric lights. These actions by the new government were the first direct measures

Newly built school house for workers' children at the Shanghai Blanket and Uniform Factory.

taken to improve the situation.

After this everybody pitched in to make the district livable. By spring of 1952, when the nation-wide health drive got into full swing, the people of Wu Lao really went to work. The news of germ warfare in Korea and Northeast China spurred them on, and work on an organized scale was carried out with financial support from the government. The "stinking ditch" was drained and filled in, and an anti-fly and mosquito campaign was launched.

For the first time a nursery and kindergarten has been set up, caring for 130 children. In addition to games, singing and dancing, strict attention is paid to hygiene. Thus, in some cases, where family members were still lax the children have influenced their elders by telling them of what they learned in kindergarten about health.

As we walked through the district, I chose a few houses at random and asked permission to look inside. Most were one-story buildings, the outside bearing witness to the poverty of the old days. Once inside, however, the impression changed. The clean rooms and furniture, the spotless floors were all testimony to how the people were mindful of new times. A model health worker, whose husband is a pedicab driver, watched with pride as I poked about her three rooms. She proudly explained to me that she personally scrubbed the floors every day. Outside, in a small space in front of the house, she grew flowers in what had before been a fair-sized mud hole.

There is no doubt that there is still great need for more and more housing everywhere in China. But here in Wu Lao, in this small part of a big city, the improvements made by the people who must wait for new homes speak volumes. These folks have made a place fit for themselves and their children to live in. They have not created a "paradise," but here in a slum—left over by Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang government in the former capital—the people have shown that given a chance anyone can learn and can make progress. The time will come when all the men and women of Wu Lao will have new, modern homes.

Meanwile, their accomplishments are a standing refutation of that well-worn piece of upper-class snobbery which holds that "people live in slums because they are shiftless, dirty and so forth," and clearly labels it for what it is: an apology for a system that creates slums and does nothing to remove the cause.

WORKERS' INVENTIONS & INNOVATIONS HELP

China's Industries

DUNCAN C. LEE

UNTIL I visited the exhibition at the Cultural Palace here in Peking, slogans relating to production and the new life had been to me hardly more than enthusiastic expressions used to publicize the news that China was advancing.

To be sure, we could see evidence of this advance all around us — "rationalization proposals," "raise political consciousness," "fulfill or overfulfill production"—but I had no clear idea of how to link up such statements with the important task now facing new China—industrialization.

At the exhibition, guides who were workers themselves explained the inventions, innovations, and new working methods and experiences in various fields.

Then I could visualize how thousands of experienced hands had made the countless new tools placed on display. How many sleepless nights and missed meals were represented here! How many try-try-agains, failures, tests, descents into despair — and then the uncontrolled enthusiasm when success was finally achieved!

The exhibition comprises many departments: machine shops, iron works, steel mills, cement factories, paper mills, mines, waterworks, railroads, bus companies, postoffice, telegraph and telephone offices, power plants, banks, storehouses, medical laboratories, construction companies, etc. I examined almost every article.

The guide—a machinist from a Peking steel mill — enthusiastically explained to me how a worker in his plant had, after 30 failures, invented a kind of soldering stick far better and seven times cheaper than the American variety.

What powerful stimulus caused this worker to persevere until his invention was successful? The answer is that he realizes he is now working for himself, for a better future for all working men and women. It also means that he appreciates the danger which America's intervention in Korea poses to his new gains and the even greater gains he sees in the future. Today, the worker has a vital stake in production and knows it.

Multi-knife and multi-blade cutting, and high speed cutting and drilling methods learned from the Soviet Union have played an important part in accelerating efficiency and also stimulating China's working people to make further inventions and innovations of their own.

In overcoming their difficulties, the guide told me, the workers made this their slogan: "Learn new production methods, set our minds in motion, pool our wisdom and energy." As a result, they have cast away the traditional secret-keeping habit of the old China. On the contrary, they publicize their findings and working methods.

The various kinds of cutting tools, perforating machines, sharpening implements, a new-model lathe, and a number of chalk foundry models for casting iron, all these, on display at one end of the machinery department, bespeak the excellent achievements of the workers. Some of these tools make it possible to increase production more than 10 times.

Listening to the guide, I began to know how challenges and counter-challenges play their part in increasing production and reducing cost.

When a shop team sends or accepts a challenge to increase output or to cut down expenses, it does so only after a great deal of discussion, study and planning on the part of the members. When we read—as we so often do—of innovations or inventions of new tools, reorganization of labor division or system, or a combination of these, we sometimes tend to forget the amount of planning and effort which went into them.

Because of the heavy demand for timber for construction, the Peking municipal government called on the truck transport workers to use coal instead of firewood in their "charcoal burners." To switch over to coal required a major alteration in the "burner." However, shortly after the request was made several workers, working as a team, devised a coal-burning cylinder with a fixture able to absorb sulfur particles from the coal gas. These cylinders, now widely used by many of the heavy trucks in the capital, have, with further modifications and improvements, proved more efficient than the charcoal burners.

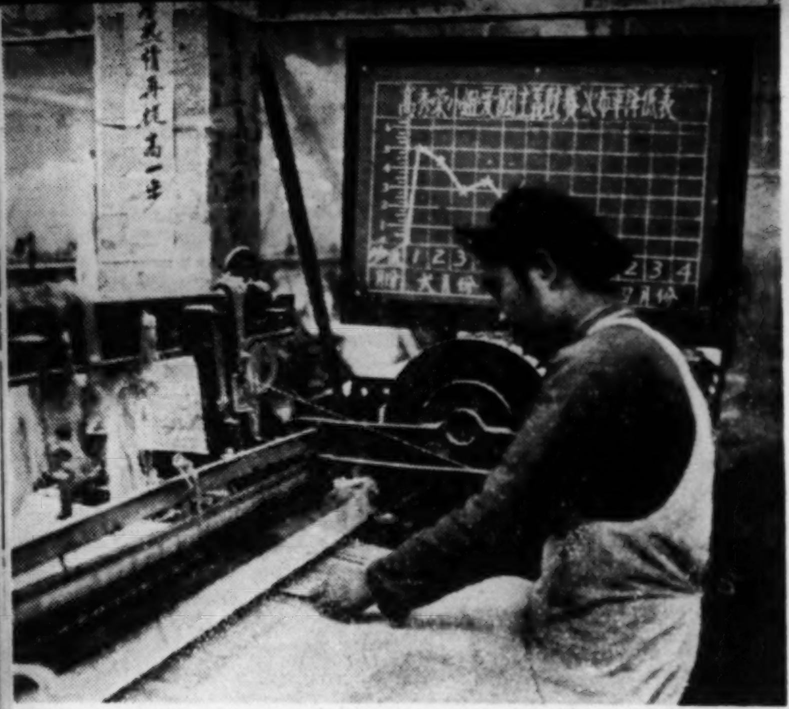
The famed ingenuity and resourcefulness of the Chinese workers was illustrated by two exhibits side by side — a broken porcelain pan, and a clay pot such as is commonly used in Chinese kitchens. The pottery is a substitute for the fine porcelain utensil in distilling one particular chemical used in etching glass. The porcelain pan, imported for a stiff price, is very fragile; the pot is produced locally at one-tenth the price, is far more durable than its American or German counterpart, and does the job equally well.

The exhibition thoroughly explains countless inventions and methods, such as making paper from straw, ginning cotton, smelting iron far more efficiently than formerly, and coordinated methods practised in almost any kind of work.

Safety first is the policy of the government, in sharp contrast to the former Kuomintang labor policy, which scarcely considered workers as human beings. In the coal mining department, I learned with anger how during KMT rule miners were ill-treated to the point of injury or even death. The profit-hungry management took no protective or preventive measures, but only drove the miners the harder.

Things are quite different now; Ma Liu-hai's method

In the X-ray laboratory of Tsinghua University, Professor Yu Jui-huang and his assistants produced X-ray tubes after successful experiments in adapting domestic metals.



Workers of the Heng Yuan Textile Mill in Tientsin raised output by 30 percent and lowered labor cost by 50 percent. Picture shows Kao Hsiu-yung, whose team has become a model in Tientsin, at work.

which increases output many times, has been achieved after preventive measures have been taken so that blasted coal lumps may not injure the miners. Ma is now a national model worker in his line.

One of the most popular slogans among the workers today is: "Look for *chiao men.*" A *chiao men* (secret) may mean an innovation, a master invention, or a small, efficient method. The slogan has brought about thousands of improvements.

Its value will be realized when we think back to the time when China was a semi-colonial country ruled by the toadying Kuomintang—which placed the interests of its foreign masters first—when each tiny screw or gadget was imported. Now these countless small spare parts can be made in China. In the exhibition I saw how a worker in a repair shop of a tele-communications equipment factory made a number of delicately adjusted tools to shape the many small pieces used in telephone apparatuses.

Similar examples can be found in all other departments. Masons have had remarkable success in speeding up their work by practising new ways of bricklaying and plastering. These are vitally important in the face of China's huge construction requirements.

I was especially interested in the ruling and steel-sawing machines. The former is used in making window or door frames 10 times more quickly than by the old manual method, the latter can cut steel pipe many times faster than by hand. Furthermore, these machines are easy to manipulate; unskilled workers are thus able to replace the experienced, who can be transferred to other important, more complicated jobs.

Innovations and reforms were also initiated by office workers. The Peking People's Bank has a new delivery method by which letters and documents are exchanged by all branches in Peking at a fixed time and place. This reduces messenger service.

All the *chiao men* and "learn from experience" findings, advanced methods and emulations point to one aim — the industrialization of China. These new and improved machines and systems are but a part of the achievement of China's working people in the few short years since the expulsion of the Kuomintang. Considering China's vast size, population, and richness in natural resources, one cannot fail to discern the abundant life in store for us.

LARGE-SCALE BUILDING WORK

IN line with the industrialization of China, building work is assuming special importance. By the end of 1952, 39 new building companies had been organized in North China and the number of building workers employed in that area was up 41 percent.

In Peking alone, 30,000 building workers, technicians and administrative workers received technical training and attended literacy classes during the slack winter months.

In Northeast China, mass construction of offices, schools, hostels and other buildings was begun this year. In the steel center of Anshan building workers for the first time successfully overcame sub-zero weather in carrying out large-scale construction projects in the winter.

Our Young Pioneers

GRACE LIU and BETTY CHANG

DELEGATES from abroad to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference in Peking last October said they were greatly impressed by the smiling, happy faces of the red-scarved children who greeted them so warmly everywhere they went. They learned that these children are Young Pioneers, but they wanted to know what made them so happy and what gave them such high spirit.

Some of the Canadian and American delegates asked, "How do children become Young Pioneers?" "Can any child join, and what are the requirements?" "How about children not in the organization?" During the past year, two of us American women in Tientsin had three of our children join. Our Young Pioneers are still fledglings, but here are our own stories, of and from our children.

BOYS and girls between 10 and 15 may apply for membership in their school. Candidates are considered by the group, i.e. teachers, and fellow-students who are already members. Consideration is based on very broad requirements of schoolwork, and particularly on performance in society as a whole.

School and home conduct cannot be separated. Parents and teachers meet at any time upon request of either party, and at general meetings when report cards come out. There is no such thing as a naughty child at home being a little angel for teacher and getting to wear the red scarf, mark of the Young Pioneer.

The aim of the pioneers, toward which all their efforts are directed, is: to be better able to serve the people, to be more useful citizens of their country and of the world, to be democratic, cooperative and brave. And with a healthy body and mind, to be lively and spirited. Young Pioneers strive to develop a creative and investigating mind together with a love of country, of people, labor, science and respect for public property.

The organization is much the same in both elementary and high schools. In high school, it is just a little more complex. From eight to 15 students constitute a small group and from three to five small groups make up a medium group. Then, from three to five medium groups form one large group. Elected from the medium group are five students who are responsible one each for study, culture (seeing that new plays, movies, books, dances, and so forth are called to the students' attention), athletics, organization and the wall newspaper.

One of our children is a study leader. That means she must keep an up-to-date list of her group's marks and try to stimulate interest and encourage help for those weak in particular subjects. She helps make a monthly plan for the Pioneer Day once a week when the group gets together to take a close look at its weaknesses and see how improvement is to be made.

Those pupils who have not yet attained membership are also organized and each grade elects a class leader. But far from being rival organizations, or one subordinate to the other, the two work together as equals.

BESIDES Ai-lien, who is 15, [writes Grace Liu] I have a son, Wei-han, 11, who also recently became a Young Pioneer. Ai-lien is in high school and Wei-han is in his

Young Pioneers try their hand in the chemical lab of Peking's newly opened Young Pioneers' Center.

last year of elementary school. Both children worked hard to qualify and there were tears and heartaches before they were finally admitted.

The children had first to fill in an application form on which they wrote name, age, class and why they wanted to join. Then they gave an evaluation of their own good and not-so-good points. This application is handed to the teacher who has charge of the group. Actual selection and acceptance of new members, however, is done by the old pioneers, that is by the members themselves.

With a mother's partiality I thought that my children would naturally be in the first group selected. I knew they were reasonably well-behaved. And Ai-lien is a good, steady student; Wei-han is brighter, but more erratic.

When the great day came I expected the children to come home with bright and shining faces. But gloom itself walked in with each one for neither had been selected.

A month went by and another group was to be elected. Wei-han had been out of school with bronchitis for more than two weeks, so we didn't have much hope for him. But surely Ai-lien would get in this time. When she came home she had that same hurt, bewildered look. She sat down by her big sister and said, "I didn't get in this time either. I don't know what's the matter."

I started to blame the teacher, but Ai-lien corrected me. "No, no, Mamee, there's something wrong with me, but I don't know what it is."

Then big sister gave her some good advice. "You go straight to the teacher tomorrow and ask her to please tell you what your faults and mistakes are, so you can correct them."

Next morning she did this, and the teacher told her: In the first place, Ai-lien was selfish. She paid no attention to girls whose marks were lower or who had failed in some of their subjects. Also, she was too exclusive, going around all the time with the same clique of girls. So that was the trouble!

Ai-lien set about correcting her faults, which she saw once they were pointed out. She picked out one girl who was especially behind in math and coached her for a month so that she passed the next examination with a good mark. Well, Ai-lien was among the next selection of pioneers and we were all proud and happy when she came home from the presentation ceremony wearing her bright new red scarf.

Young Pioneers on a butterfly expedition in the countryside.

Wei-han still didn't get in. His marks were not always good. I was in bed sick most of that time and his father was away a great deal, so I had to leave him with his older sister to control and she wasn't always wise with him. However, Ai-lien's activities in the Young Pioneers spurred him on.

She had gone to summer camp where she learned many handicrafts, and she visited a state farm where the children saw tractors, combines and livestock. There was a field-trip outside the city on a butterfly-and-insect catching mission.

Wei-han began working hard to become a pioneer. While he was home sick for two weeks last term his schoolmates came every day to bring his schoolwork. His sister helped him keep up too.

Then one day a schoolmate dashed in with the exciting news that Wei-han's name was among the new initiates!

We all attended the red scarf presentation ceremony, which was a joint one with another school. The scarf is presented by an older pioneer to the new ones. A short speech is made to each one and each is shown how to tie the scarf properly. Wei-han said afterwards that he got a catch in his throat at that moment.

* * *

BUDDY is the oldest of my four children [writes Betty Chang]. He is ten and a half. Last November he was among the group of his classmates who received the red scarf. He is already a different boy. Buddy is a bundle of energy and had begun to enter that smarty "gang" age that in the US is considered unavoidable.

He teased his sisters, ran off to schoolmates' houses after school without permission or had "the gang" in to practically dismantle the house while I was out. His schoolwork began to suffer. He was dissatisfied without more and more spending money.

Under other circumstances I would have reason to worry about how he might turn out. But not in new China. Not as a Young Pioneer where the group's the thing, and children learn fair play through practicing democracy.

Buddy's change-about had already advanced quite far before I knew what was going on. I couldn't help noticing how obedient he had suddenly become, how he was coming home promptly after school and getting onto his lessons, helping instead of teasing his sisters. Finally I asked him what it was all about.

He said that on October 1, 13 of his classmates had been initiated into the Young

A group of Young Pioneers from Shanghai at a vacation-time camp.

Pioneers and he and his best pal weren't among them. During the singing of the pioneer song, Buddy said the two found themselves crying instead of singing—they felt so bad. So they were determined to embrace the high principles of the Young Pioneers and improve in order to make the grade by the next initiation.

And they did. Buddy came home one afternoon proud and happy, with the scarf! Since then he has been improving himself, for a pioneer never rests on his laurels.

One of the first manifestations as a pioneer was Buddy's schedule. Time took on great importance. His schedule was most useful, and elastic enough to be workable. It showed quite a degree of maturity. His "gang" spirit is giving way to group spirit, and he is mindful of people and of property. His last report card showed marked improvement.

When I come home now I usually find Buddy and some schoolmates around the table doing homework, or that finished, playing quietly. Not only do I no longer have to urge him to do routine chores around the house, but he cheerfully helps out in extra ways. Now when he gets his own shirts and clothes from his closet he is more careful about not muddying and inking them up, and has saved a good deal of laundering.

One afternoon Buddy returned late from school. A problem had come up when a pioneer candidate in a fit of temper had hit a schoolmate. Could the boy be admitted? The members gave it much consideration. I was interested in the outcome, for certainly here were children learning self-government through practice.

Since the candidate had an excellent record of improvement it was decided that he should be admitted. The red scarf would help him not to forget himself and resort to his bad old habits. This decision makes of the scarf not only a badge of achievement but also a stimulation to constant improvement in learning and behavior. To me, it also serves as a spur if I am to keep up with my children.

We Young Pioneer mothers feel that the new society in China has done a great thing to help us raise our youngsters as we want them to be—strong in body and mind, loving beauty and truth—a sound next generation that is already helping make a much better world than it fell heir to.

The Village Teacher

H. C. HUANG

THE counsel of Chairman Mao: **Wipe out illiteracy from our population,** is the watchword of cultural workers, and will be until its accomplishment. I was about to see how intensively this task is being put into operation.

Our destination was a village on the very summit of a mountain of considerable height, a village enshrouded in clouds. As we picked our way slowly up the rugged path that wound its way among tall grass and shrubbery, a gust of chilly wind made us aware of the high altitude to which we were ascending. I glanced into the valley at my side, and marveled that the ancestors of these 2,000 villagers should choose so inaccessible a place for their home.

At a turn in the path, the guide, who preceded me, whispered, "Here comes the headmaster." His words were full of respect.

Coming down the narrow, slippery path was a rosy-faced youth, who looked more like student than headmaster. Barefoot, his shoes were in one of the two baskets slung at the end of a pole over his shoulder. He warmly shook my hand, and expressed his regret at not being able to accompany us to the village, as he was on his way to market to make some purchases for the school. He was pleased to learn that we intended to stay in the school overnight, and told us there was a teacher on duty there.

It was almost 11:00 a.m. when we reached the very crest of the mountain and this completely secluded village. Houses were set among the narrow strips of terraced field; on a higher level and along the village path were lined tall, dense bamboo.

The school, situated on a little plateau, commanded a view of the entire village. From the outdoor basketball court I could see little cottages nestled cozily by the side of a

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Dr. H. C. HUANG, a frequent contributor to the Review, served with the Chinese Volunteers in Korea for a year and a half and is now carrying out public health work in Fukien province.

gurgling brook; beyond were only mountains and more mountains. As the vacation season had already started, the classrooms were empty when I entered the school. Some youngsters were playing ping pong, and the teacher in charge asked me to return in the evening.

When I did return, from the windows of the school came the flickering of lamplight and candlelight, and the chanting of voices. On the blackboard hung a thick scroll of paper, on which were written, in large letters, the new phonetic symbols. The headmaster, who had already returned, indicated each of these with a pointer, and read them aloud for the students to follow.

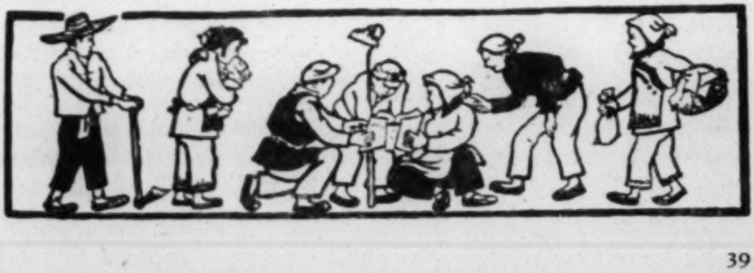
And the students! Never in old China was there such a variety of classmates! Old men and women, young blushing girls, wriggling youths and little tots were all present, all alike poring over books, reading diligently and listening attentively.

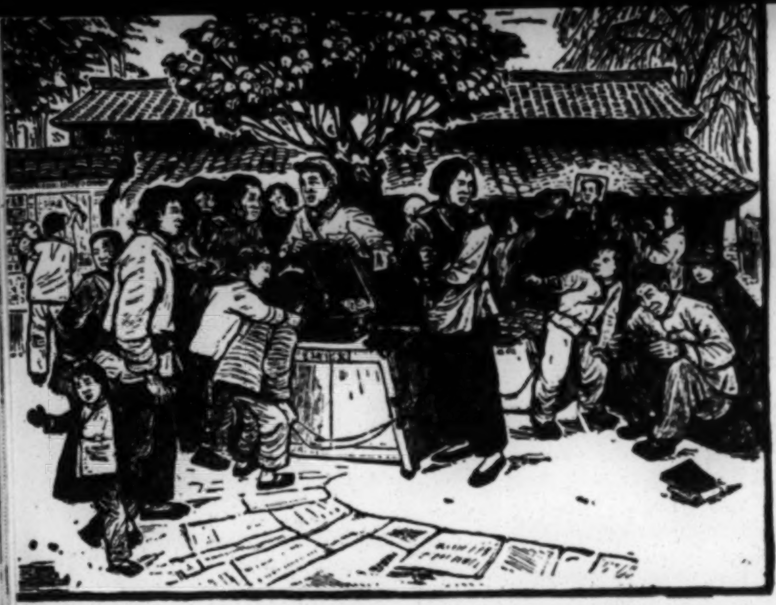
Later, I had several minutes of conversation with the young headmaster. "This is a new thing to me," he said with an engaging smile. "We are searching for the correct way of teaching."

It seems that this class had been started only the previous month, sponsored by the government. The first enrolment was limited to 200 and the time set at three months for them to master at least 500 characters and be able to read the newspaper headlines.

My attention was caught by some persons who did not seem to belong to the class. I indicated an elderly man sitting apart in a corner, with a solitary lamp and a book. The headmaster explained, "Since our enrolment is limited to 200, there are many eager ones who refuse to be kept outside, even for three months. They simply come and listen and learn by themselves."

After a pause, he continued, "One of our troubles is with light. Our students all must work in the daytime. Oil for the lamps must be brought





Books and gramophone records for the villagers.

—by Ku Ke-chien

from a neighboring town well over 15 miles from here. We instructors go there to buy oil for them once every week."

Going to school presents many and serious problems for these students. This particular district is notorious as a tiger-infested region. The topography, the high mountains and thick woods and huge rocks offer a favorable setting for tigers, which before liberation killed more than 1,000 humans a year throughout the district.

During the last three years the villagers have organized many tiger hunts and as a result the toll has lessened considerably, but occasionally a tragedy is still reported. In this village, however, no man had been killed by a tiger for two years, but still the beasts are a menace to domestic animals. Nevertheless, the students take no chances and come in groups carrying blazing torches.

Although the "tiger problem" is speedily nearing solution, there are other problems. Consider the poor economic condition of this region; there is little arable land. Land reform has greatly improved living conditions, but real prosperity will come only when this area is industrialized. Some students were unable to pay the price of textbooks. The problem was solved by the teachers who themselves contributed books for those who could not afford them.

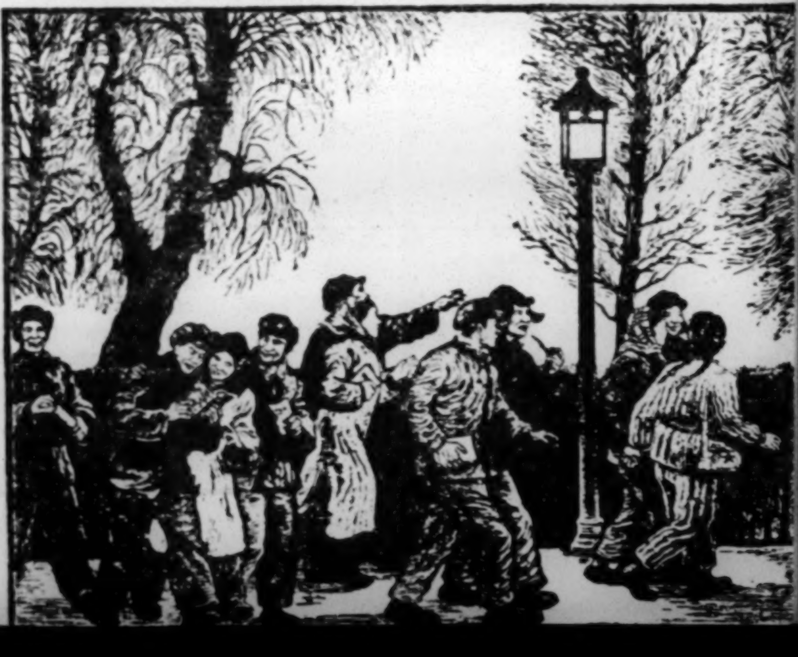
Now the major problem left was how to teach, to make the path of knowledge easier for the students. They had been divided into several groups, each with six or eight members and based on the proximity of their houses. The best student in each group was elected leader, to assist his classmates in their study at home.

Even this was considered not enough; the teacher toured the whole village in the day time, visiting the houses of his students, especially those whose classwork was not up to standard. The teacher's goal was that not a single student should fail in the work.

FOR 20 days, I went from village to village, staying in each for one or two days. What I have seen and heard convinced me this great desire for learning now sweeping the country will drown illiteracy once and for all. For what is taking place in this one backward region is also going on from the extreme north to the extreme south, in the coastal areas and the western borders. In a few short years, this handicap of centuries is certain to vanish without a trace.

But the work of a village teacher is not just to teach the three R's. To give the villagers an adequate knowledge of

Workers go to a spare-time school — *by Ku Yuan*



domestic and international events, he must also be a news analyst and publicity man. At regular intervals, a sort of blackboard bulletin is issued, of which the teacher is editor, writer and publisher. He is also the announcer of any news that should be relayed immediately to the villagers.

Nor is this all. The village teacher is a leader in any movement — from the campaign to increase production to the sanitation drive.

With his blackboard bulletin, he carries up-to-date reports on the different campaigns; with his loud-speaker, he urges the villagers to take immediate action on some issue. In class, he urges his students to take the lead in any movement, to start the work immediately in their respective homes and to convince their neighbors to follow suit.

He is respected by all the villagers, not because he is an intellectual but because his intelligence proves of great service to the common people. When everyone else sleeps, he is often still up, copying down the phonetics and new words for his students, for the work of tomorrow.

He is not an idle pedagogue, intoning in a drowsy voice the precepts of the sages, doing nothing for the people, and extorting gifts from his few privileged scholars on days of festival. He is forever active, active in the work of production, ready to offer advice, ready to do anything to serve his charges.

When I told the headmaster in each village of the purpose of our trip, they always took it upon themselves to see that the job was accomplished within the specified time. As it turned out it took even less time than we had anticipated to accomplish the four objectives of our tour. These were first, the cleaning of houses, both indoors and out; second, the spraying of DDT; third, inoculation against diseases; and fourth, the trapping of rats, with our target figure being a rat for each inhabitant.

I am sure that we could not have accomplished so much without the comradely and enthusiastic assistance of the school teachers. And it is in this kind of work that I came to know the new type of village teacher in present-day China.

Workers in China offer peaceful competition

A CHALLENGE TO MY FELLOW WORKERS

Louis A. Wheaton

I HAVE visited factories from Shanghai to Shenyang (Mukden). I will give you just general impressions—not a whole lot of figures. As one worker to another, figures can be made to lie. So I'll tell you what I saw with my own two eyes.

In the first place I was impressed by the unity among the workers. There is none of this "rival union" business. You work, I work, we all work and we need a strong union for our protection—that's the attitude of all the workers. The workers support their union and its leaders. Woe unto that leader who gives these workers a bum steer.

Maybe I should tell you here that four years ago China was a mass of rubble and poor organization. Most of the workers were unorganized. Their living conditions were "zero minus." They were living in horrible huts and shacks and any shelter they could find. The Kuomintang had its heel on the worker's neck and was burying him in the muck and mire. But the workers united and set right this awful mess.

Today, what are the actual conditions? In the first place I state quite frankly that the living standard of the Chinese people is not up to ours as yet. But that is only a matter of time and a very short time at that.

As for housing, the workers are already living in warm, clean

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LOUIS A. WHEATON, machinist, and head of the US delegation to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference held in Peking last autumn, has visited factories in the major coastal cities of China. This article is excerpted from his open letter to workers in the USA.

houses. But this is by no means all. In every city there are huge housing projects going up. The projects are not only government projects but factory projects also, for which the rents are phenomenally low. These are modern projects with all the necessary facilities.

For example: a typical family was the one I visited at the Fushun open cut mine. While walking along a street in the housing project I picked up a little boy of about four-and-a-half or five years of age from among the children who had gathered around us. I told him through our interpeter that I would like to visit his home.

He very proudly got down from my arms and running before us led us to his home. There were four in his family. Following his example we doffed our shoes and entered a foyer that was spotless and the floor shone. There were three rooms and a kitchen. There was gas for cooking, electric lights and radio, and very bright spreads on the beds.

The furniture was heavy, sturdy red maple. There were pictures of the family and of the leaders of China on the walls. We were served tea in the pottery that is very familiar in China. A worker in China today pays between five and seven percent of his income for rent.

Each factory that I visited has a nursery where the workers may leave their children in the competent hands of trained personnel and nurses. The factory also provides a primary school

The creche at the Dairen Railway Workshop.

Vacationing workers on a trip to the Kuanyinsze temple at Peitaiho, North China seaside resort.

for the small kids who can't be left alone. Mothers are given, with full pay, three one-half hour periods for nursing and visiting their babies, exclusive of their lunch period.

The trade union and its representatives are constantly checking on safety devices and improved working conditions for the workers. This includes ventilation, heat, dust removers, lighting and other such factors important to a worker.

The factory management respects the trade union, and the proposals made to management are generally implemented immediately as soon as equipment can be installed. The factory, whether state-owned or privately-owned, carries health insurance on the workers.

The factory also provides for a clinic and rest home right on the premises for workers who become ill on the job. These clinics are staffed with doctors and nurses who give the best care to the workers.

Every branch of industry has, or will have in the immediate future, its own hospital. For example, in Tientsin, the textile workers have a brand new, well-equipped 400-bed hospital with a full staff of doctors and nurses. The chemical workers in the same city have a 300-bed hospital equipped in the same manner and so do the steelworkers. All expenses for hospital care, doctors, surgery, and medicine are free to the workers. In addition to this they are paid for the period they are unable to work.

Now let's speak about health resorts. You will really hear something. These resorts are beautiful palaces on lakes, in the hilly countryside or along one of the beautiful rivers of China. The resort of the railroad workers is a dream. It sits like a jewel under the mountains around Hangchow and on the edge of the beautiful West Lake.

Here, based on performance and the need of the workers, they are given two to four weeks' rest, completely free in most cases and in others paying only a nominal fee for their meals. This, of course, includes doctors and nurses and personnel for the needs of the workers. The trade union decides upon who shall be given this rest after consultation with the workers. However, if the doctors make such a recommendation then this is given priority. This is in addition to the regular holiday or vacation period.

One other thing that impressed me very much was the role that women are playing in industry in China. In the factories they are standing side by side with their trade union brothers operating a huge lathe, miller, power press or other very intricate testing and technical machinery. It is not unusual at all to see a woman director of a machine shop or a woman engineer. I must add for clarity women receive equal pay with their brother workers.

Workers here are proud of their achievements in the past three years, and rightly so. They want to keep on improving their conditions and they want to be friends with workers in America and other countries.

Instead of the enmity that our government is fostering against the Chinese workers, let us turn this to a friendly challenge of peaceful competition to see how quickly we can all improve our working and living conditions. We love competition —and I can assure you competition with the Chinese workers will keep us stepping to get the rest homes, safety devices, equality for women that I have seen in the major industrial cities of China.

But opportunities to improve our living conditions only come in times of peace. And we can guarantee peace by demanding that all present wars be stopped—by demanding that all disputes be settled by negotiation and with no interference in the internal affairs of any country.

Then we workers in America, with our brother workers in China and in other countries, can advance together to better working conditions and a richer life for all.

A Yangchow opera

"SCOLDING THE LANTERNS"

● ● ● *Shirley Ray Wood*

ONE of the Chinese festivals which is little known in the West is the fifteenth of the first month of the lunar calendar, which signifies the closing of the New Year season. This, when referred to by Westerners, is spoken of as the "Lantern Festival."

On the thirteenth the lanterns come on sale en masse. Shop fronts and stalls bloom with cellophane lanterns, paper lanterns trimmed with colored fringes, and thin silk lanterns with a ring of figureens inside arranged to run around when the heat from the candle turns the windmill in the top. The most popular are rabbits about a foot long, on bamboo wheels. These are about the safest for children and are on sale by the dozens.

There are rabbits and horses that a child can stand inside, dogs that wag their heads and other more complicated lanterns made to order and displayed early to other customers.

Among the hanging lanterns there are very small rabbits, fish, insects, shrimp, lotus, the old-style gold bar (like a hat with two ends turned up) and among the silk lanterns even white elephants and boats.

The lantern festival is the most colorful part of the whole New Year holiday, and methods of celebration vary widely.

This year, having dutifully bought three rabbits, I took the two older children off to the afternoon show at the "Thousand Countries" to see the traditional Yangchow opera for the fifteenth, "Scolding the Lanterns."

Yangchow opera is the local opera of North Kiangsu, of which that city is the capital. Since there is a considerable North Kiangsu population in Shanghai, which is in the same

province, Yangchow opera is played in several neighborhood theaters in this city.

We sat in the front row in the small, not too recently painted theater, crowded with women and babies, while the neighbors asked solicitously if we could understand it all and the gentleman in the orchestra who alternated between a Chinese banjo and bass viol suggested to our neighbor that sponge cake might make her baby happier than a bun.

Since we have been raised on Yangchow dialect for the past four years by our servant and her friends and relatives, we were following quite well both the audience and actors.

“SCOLDING the Lanterns” starts with a typical story of the inferior regard for females in the old society. A family has run into financial difficulties while the older son is away. The second son, who has returned home, sets out to borrow money from a neighbor. The rich neighbor gets him drunk, then sends him to the magistrate, accusing him of stealing 100 ounces of silver. The bureaucratic official (a comedy character) tosses him into jail.

The seven-year-old daughter of the older brother (played by a young woman in pigtails and bright print suit) comes home to tell her mother and grandmother she has heard uncle is in the clink. The grandmother dies of heart failure.

The little girl takes a bowl of food to uncle, and comes up against bureaucracy. The jailor insists on his bribe. However, he is only another oppressed worker who has to make a living, and his kind heart softens when the little girl gets down on her knees and refuses to leave. Uncle tells her that it will cost him 100 ounces of silver to get out.

By borrowing from friends the sister-in-law scrapes together 88 ounces. But for the other 12, she and her kind neighbor, Old Mother Wong, (this type of comedy character is played by men with cracked voices) can think of no recourse but to sell the little girl. After a heartbreaking scene in which the audience is kept laughing half the time (they have seen the opera every year and know it has a happy ending) the old woman and the little girl go off together.

Here it must be remarked that much of the comedy is due to the little girl, who is very precocious and has her say about everything.

While Old Mother Wong is leading her along the street (in front of the curtain) calling out "Mai shao ku-niang" (little girl for sale) she calls out "Mai lao p'o-niang" (old woman for sale). This causes a sharp argument between the two of them and gales of laughter from the audience.

The happy ending is provided when the little girl is sold to a rich and beautiful young lady who, when she hears the child talking in her sleep demands to know her story. The young lady turns out to be Auntie, who sends the little girl home with a knapsack of silver and a letter for Older Sister-in-law.

Having given the customers their money's worth of time, mother and daughter go off the stage to see the lantern show that follows.

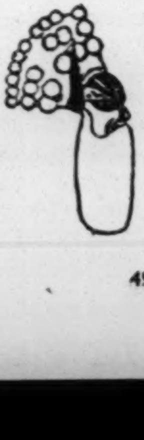
Undoubtedly the lanterns and the dances differ in every village in the country. The ones we saw were a fair sampling. The first were competing dominoes who ended up with a very attractive song.

Others were a lady with baskets of flowers and one in a ship; two wrestlers whose fight was ended when the gentleman underneath them stood up on the legs of one and wiped his forehead with the feet of the other; five dancers each hitched between the front and rear end of a paper horse; a scene of an old fisherman trying to catch an oyster (the bivalve herself looked quite chic in silk trousers and jacket) and getting caught himself by head, rump, arm or leg before he succeeds; a large lion which can roll over or dash at the audience with huge gaping jaws (both my children climbed up onto my head at that) and finally the dancing dragon.

WHEN the dancing is over, the players come out front and sit cross-legged on the stage while the little girl brings out a chair for her mother. Mother sits down then to "scold" one by one the players, each with a little rhyme wishing him some comic misfortune.

Sitting there they keep reminding her not to miss this one or that one. When she has finished with them, she scolds her daughter, the drummer, the cymballist, the audience, the violinists and the manager. As she leaves, the dancers tell her to scold herself.

This scolding brings down the house. In country towns, where everyone knows everyone, the scolder must be quite an ad lib artist.



Report from Fukien province

Soviet Aid to New China

Ho Tun-sun

Assistance by technical experts from the Soviet Union has evoked the praise of the people of China who are engaged in a nation-wide construction program aimed at rapidly turning this ancient land into a modern country. The following report from the Review's contributor in Fukien province details the type of work Soviet technicians are doing in his area. It is also an effective answer to the charge frequently made abroad that China has been taken over by the Soviet Union.

THE great achievements China has made in less than four years since the founding of the people's government are inseparable from the experiences gathered by the Soviet Union.

In industry, on the farm and on big engineering projects Soviet technicians have made a valuable contribution to China's all-round renaissance which has seen more progress in these few years than in the course of any past century. For instance, in Northeast China, factory efficiency and production have increased five to six times by the introduction of new overhauling methods, high-speed cutting and Soviet technical methods.

Through the system of "thorough plowing and close planting," productivity in cotton fields has gone up from 34 *catties* per *mou* in 1949 to 350 *catties* in 1952.

HERE in Fukien, long one of China's most backward and poverty-stricken provinces under the old regime, we have seen for ourselves the work of Soviet technicians.

In 1950, several Soviet specialists in highway and bridge engineering attended the conference on overall repair of highways in the East China area which was held in neighboring Kiangsi province.

In the light of the experience gained in the war against Hitler, Soviet technicians developed new methods of rapid construction which economize on cement and steel without any loss in quality to the roads. Existing highways which were sorely in need of repairs were rebuilt with tremendous saving of cement and steel ingots without the loss of high quality.

Today, this province, long renowned for its extremely bad communication facilities, is becoming more unified.

Last July, the Fukien Inland Steam Launch Navigation Company experimented with the Soviet method of freight-towing along the Min River.

In the first trial run, aimed at lowering water resistance and transporting more freight, a tugboat of 36 horsepower was used to tow 10 barges strung out over a distance of 600 feet. This was instead of the traditional Anglo-American method of towing parallel. A total load of 80 tons was carried at a speed of about seven miles per hour. The voyage covered more than 60 miles. En route, the vessels successfully navigated two dangerous shoals and made two 90-degree turns.

In a second trial, a smaller tugboat of only 20 horsepower pulled 12 barges loaded with 111 tons of freight. By last November, after 10 more trial runs, the company came to the conclusion that the top towing capacity on the Min River is one horsepower to seven tons, more than 14 times the previous ratio.

The reduced transport costs and increased hauling capacity of existing equipment has greatly stimulated the interflow of goods between town and country, even at low tide in the winter.

Fukien is a mountainous region and for centuries flash floods have caused great losses

Soviet technician explains construction and operation of a special grinding machine to a Chinese worker in Dairen railway workshop.

of life and property. Last year, in upper Fukien, where the flood waters begin, the government embarked on a project aimed at ending this menace.

With the help of a Soviet engineer, a dike more than three miles long was completed in three months and the city of Foochow and its surrounding area are now safe from flood waters. An important factor in the rapid completion of the project was the use of a Soviet pile-driver, which, using air pressure and consuming only a small amount of wood oil, drove 40 piles a day. A manual pile-driving team can drive only one pile per day.

WORKERS in the Fukien Paper Mill have begun learning the Kovalev working method which has resulted in a rise in both quantity and quality of output.

According to the Kovalev method, workers meet in small groups to pool their experiences and working-knowledge; and technicians consult workers individually and in groups to collect working experiences and outline new procedures. In this practical way, work-

Demonstration of Soviet high-speed electric welding method at Shanghai's Kiangnan Dockyard.

ers' suggestions are utilized to increase production and they understand the advantages of new techniques.

Effects have been clearly shown in the paper-selecting department. Formerly, 72 tons of paper were selected a month while now 92 tons are selected in the same amount of working time. The Kovalev method has also meant an end to slip-shod work. In the process of bleaching wood pulp, for example, workers often carelessly applied bleaching powder, resulting in an uneven quality of the paper. Moreover, there were some workers who used to apply alum to the pump at one fell swoop instead of gradually after stirring; this caused the paper to come out spotted.

Tissue therapy which has been proven successful in medical treatment in the Soviet Union was introduced in March 1951. Hospitals all over the province began applying this new method of treatment to the general public. According to preliminary statistics, 70 percent of 9,417 patients suffering from such serious ailments as gastric ulcers, asthma, chronic gastritis, epilepsy, cornea ulcer and irregular menstruation, were helped or completely cured.

A typical case was that of a woman in her 'fifties, Lee Ching-shuen, who suffered from a cornea ulcer. For the past three years she had been practically blind. Her son took her to the Nanping hospital for tissue therapy treatment and the old woman's sight was restored within one week's time. The same hospital reported the case of a woman, unable to conceive for more than 15 years, who became pregnant and was delivered of a normal child after receiving tissue therapy.

The Soviet method of painless childbirth has received widespread attention all over the country since its introduction in China last June. Following months of nation-wide publicity, this new obstetrical method has shown good results. In one hospital, only a few out of 233 maternity cases failed to show a satisfactory result. The small number of failures was due to the patient not following the guidance of the obstetrician in charge, a vital factor in the effectiveness of the method.

THE Chinese expression for the help new China is getting from the Soviet Union is "fraternal aid." No imperialist nation—as we have learned by experience — would be interested in extending the type of aid Soviet experts are giving—resulting in building up our industry and improving the general welfare.

Equal Pay for Equal Work

★ ★ *Women in a model village meet the opposition of the men and prove their worth.*

WOMEN have come into their own in Si Gau village in the northern province of Shansi. For some time Si Gau has been considered progressive; by old-time standards it was. To be sure, a woman was not expected to have new clothes until three years of marriage, and then but eight feet of cloth a year — yet ill-treatment of women was considered a thing of the past.

The village's greatest claim to fame is that it is the home of Li Shun-ta, model farmer. In this formerly impoverished spot in a desolate valley, Li has increased the harvest to a phenomenal extent by working out new methods of planting.

He discovered the proper distance required for sprouts growing in land of varying topography, such as is to be found in this district, and corrected the previous mistaken conception that the more seeds sown, the larger the harvest.

Li suggested new methods of seed selection, and sowing, such as dipping seeds in warm water, and had exhibits in the fields and encouraged the villagers to note the results of his work.

In 1942, during the anti-Japanese war when the liberated areas were blockaded Li, answering Chairman Mao Tse-tung's call: **Organize for self-relief through production,** organized a mutual-aid group to combat famine in the district. The group of six reclaimed seven *mou* of wasteland in eight days, and gathered a large amount of fuel.

Convinced of the advantages of working together, the villagers continued in their mutual-aid groups—organizations whereby several families pool their labor to work on each other's land. They still grow whatever crops they choose and the entire harvest goes to the owner.

An agricultural producer cooperative was set up in Si Gau village in the winter of 1951. Both labor and land were pooled, and wages were computed on the basis of "work points," 10 points comprising an ordinary day's work, with the harvest divided partly according to land subscribed by each member, and partly according to the amount of collective work he did.

The following year after Li Shun-ta's agricultural producer co-operative was set up production was so expanded that unless women members took over half of the manual work the increased production goals could not be met.

LI Shun-ta had had phenomenal success with seeds and plants; now came the problem of introducing new methods in human relationships, and Li and other leaders ran into difficulties. The problem, and it was a real one, was specifically to bring about equal pay for equal work for women.

The difficulty harked back to the days of the mutual-aid team, in which it had been customary to value a woman's work as only half that of a man, and moreover to list them under the male "heads" of their families.

Women had been taking only a small part in agricultural production. Most of them helped out with odd jobs at harvest time, and in the other busy seasons. To meet the expanded production, Sun Gi-nan, assistant head of the cooperative, was selected to mobilize the women.

The older ones held back. Women's place is in the kitchen, in bed, or at most in a mill, they mumbled. Also, the more timid feared the labor would require special skill, and hesitated to step forward.

But the majority of women felt they were being exploited. Half pay! Inferior position! They felt they would do better to stay at home and make shoe soles.

As an inducement, Gi-nan suggested equal pay; immediately all the men were up in arms against so radical an idea. To be sure, there was a revolution going on, but.... Equal pay for weak woman! Never! Another woman came up with the suggestion that women show how well they could work, then they would have an argument to use in bargaining.

While mulling over this thought, someone mentioned Li Er-nin. Er-nin was the typical example of old-fashioned, inhibited female. Daytimes she hardly budged from her kitchen, and even there she was a slow worker. No meetings, no classes for Er-nin. Her husband was contemptuous of her; the neighbors called her "simpleton."

If only Er-nin could be mobilized for work, and make a good showing, what a splendid example that would be! But she demurred. "I'm content as I am," she said, "liberation or no liberation."

A committee went to work on her, pointing out that her clothes were tattered; if she worked and earned money to buy new clothes her husband would have a higher regard for her. Eventually they talked her into it; the next day she showed up with a spade, and did as much work as any of the others.

At the end of the day, Gi-nan was nominated as model worker for the day, for having mobilized Er-nin, but Gi-nan suggested Er-nin herself, because of her excellent work.

All agreed; Gi-nan neglected her supper to ask the village announcer to broadcast the news. Rice bowls in hand, the village women came from their homes to hear the announcement. "I'm sure I can do better than she," they told each other. The next day, 19 women from the co-operative went to work, and 35 *mou* of land were tilled in three days. Gi-nan mobilized the older women to organize a creche, in order to release mothers for field work in busy seasons.

In the case of plowing, holding the plow is reckoned at 10 points, whereas leading the animal counts only four points. Chang Sheh-hwa, a woman, was leading the animal for male worker Ma Yu-hsin. Chang asked to hold the plow, brushing aside Ma's protests that she would fall down. Chang succeeded in holding the plow steady, and won 10 points for the day.

Sun Gi-nan, pleased with this victory, saw to it that the next day the cooperative gave all the plowing to the women, leaving the men to do soil repair and improvement.

ONCE a start was made, things progressed by leaps and bounds. When it came time to spread manure before the spring sowing, women challenged the men. Two groups started work on separate pieces of land; when the men took a rest, the women did not stop working, and finished before noon, and ahead of the men. With such examples of determination before them, the most inveterate advocates of unequal pay changed their minds, and the principle of equal pay for equal work was adopted.

The attitude of the men changed; women did not leave the fields earlier to cook meals, but at the same time as the men who helped in kitchen work.

However, when the time came for separating and transplanting the seedlings, male members said, "No equal pay! This work requires skill."

But the female hands proved to be more dextrous when the crop committee once more organized a contest of skill and technique, and the result settled for once and all the old arguments. The women actually surpassed the men. At the election of labor models for spring tilling, six out of 16 were women. Of the summer labor models, nine out of 21 were women.

With some trepidation and fears the sheep might get out of hand, the women undertook sheep herding, and all turned out well. A system of labor conservation was devised, so that important home work would not be sacrificed, and women took turns in the fields. Afforestation and dredging of ponds were all carried out according to plan, and women's position and prestige were ever enhanced.

Dragon Boat Festival honors renowned poet

CH'U YUAN

. . . Gladys Tayler Yang

THE colorful Dragon Boat Festival, which falls on the fifth day of the fifth month of the lunar calendar, honors the poet Ch'u Yuan. Down through the centuries facts about the poet have been few and open to various interpretations—some scholars have said he was a noble, some a slave, and some that no such person existed.

As in the case of other poets, notably Homer and Shakespeare, poems bearing Ch'u Yuan's name have been ascribed by some authorities to others. However, according to tradition—and this view is upheld by leading scholars in China today—Ch'u Yuan existed and was a noble and councillor to the king of the state of Ch'u.

Ch'u Yuan captured the popular imagination by his loyalty to his country and his people, and his unyielding spirit which would not stoop to compromise or curry favor. Therefore in spite of the courtly flavor of his poetry, he has always been a popular figure.

Primitive communities in many parts of the world hold festivals to drive away evil spirits, and often part of the ceremony is a boat race or other form of purification by water. This was the case with the Roman Saturnalia, and the Oxford-Cambridge boat race is supposed to have a similar origin. Such rites were common in ancient China, but by the time of the Han Dynasty (202 B.C.-221 A.D.) because of the popularity of Ch'u Yuan, they had come to be associated with his death. Racing dragon boats mimed the attempts to recover the poet's body from the river.

Cones of glutinous rice steamed in lotus leaves are a characteristic food of this festival; some of these are always thrown overboard as a bribe to the water dragons and serpents to refrain from devouring the body. Such practices have continued down to the present day.

Throughout all China, the Dragon Boat Festival is considered, along with New Year's and the Mid-Autumn Festival, to be one of the outstanding holidays of Chinese tradition. I have seen dragon boat races at Chungking and Nanking, and expect to see even livelier ones in North China this year.

THE TEMPLE at Ch'i Hsia Shan, a mountain near Nanking, has preserved a legend concerning Ch'u Yuan. During the Han Dynasty the Yangtze valley was still thickly wooded and swarming with snakes, so serpent worship was practiced. One huge serpent was identified with Chin Shang, the knight who had slandered Ch'u Yuan to cause his downfall, and the local people built a shine to propitiate this evil spirit.

The belief that heaven had changed Chin Shang to a serpent illustrates the people's sense of justice and love for Ch'u Yuan. Although the truth is veiled in antiquity, throughout the ages Chu' Yuan has stood to the Chinese as an unselfish patriot.

In recent years Wen Yi-to, progressive professor assassinated by Kuomintang thugs in Kunming in 1945, had a special love for Ch'u Yuan, and published researches on his poems. Kuo Mo-jo, China's great peace champion and an outstanding scholar, has also made a study of the poet.

TWO thousand years ago, the state of Ch'in set out to conquer the rest of China; the first step was to break up the defensive alliance among the six other states making up the nation. The first victim was to be the state of Ch'u; the king was offered 200 miles of land to break the alliance.

Ch'u Yuan, renowned poet, advised the king against this strategem aimed at isolating the state of Ch'u. But the king was surrounded by a coterie of corrupt officials who were either bribed or bullied into persuading him to accept the Ch'in offer. And Ch'u Yuan was discredited and dismissed.

Isolated as it was by its own act, the state of Ch'u fell easy prey to the Ch'in armies. King Huai was tricked into going to Ch'in where he died in captivity, and in 278 B.C. the capital of Ch'u was sacked. Ch'u Yuan, crushed by grief and despair, drowned himself.

Porcelain dragon boat.

●

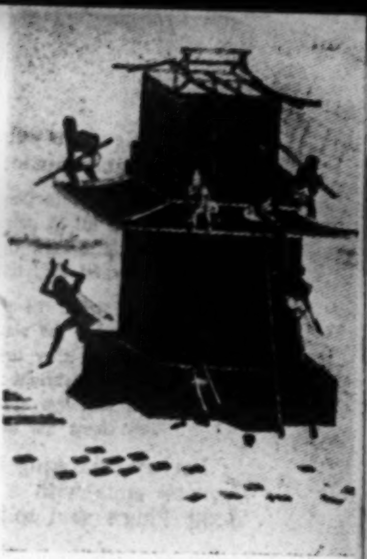
During the Sino-Japanese war he wrote the play "Ch'u Yuan," emphasizing the poet's resistance to foreign aggression, love of the people, and refusal to be corrupted. This had great topical significance in wartime Chungking—Queen Cheng-hsiu in this play reminded many of Chiang Kai-shek's wife, Soong Mei-ling.

She was presented as a no-longer-young glamor girl, extremely ambitious politically and completely unprincipled, able to make honeyed and high-sounding speeches when it suited her purpose. She helped to discredit Ch'u Yuan by pretending to be dizzy and falling into his arms just as the king entered the court.

Ch'u Yuan has been called the Father of Chinese Poetry, and Kuo Mo-jo has translated the archaic language of the ancient poems into modern Chinese. But it is difficult to give a fair impression of his poetry in European languages, and he is virtually unknown in the West.

His long autobiographical poem *The Lament*, following the short lyrics of ancient China, has been likened to a phoenix descending among doves. Perhaps something of the spirit of his poems may be felt from the following extracts from a sixth century critic:

"His style surpasses the old, and his diction marks a new age, while the extraordinary splendor and surpassing brilliance of his poetry are unrivalled . . . . many have followed in his footsteps, but none could overtake the leisurely stride of the poet and his disciple Sung Yü. For when they express grief and longing, they move the reader's heart to sorrow. When they speak of exile, they make him feel its indescribable loneliness . . . when they describe hills and streams the reader hears the rippling waters and sees the lofty grandeur. And when they mention the seasons he beholds the change of time as he glances through the poems."



A mural painting in the Tunhuang caves.

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Although Ch'u Yüan has been celebrated for 20 centuries, only now, in new China is he really beginning to come into his own with the people, who are able to read his poems for the first time. In the old days, youngsters with their eyes on the West knew little and cared less for the culture of their own past.

I remember hearing an enlightened missionary praise the famous Tang Dynasty poet Li Po to some teen-agers. "You're kidding!" they exclaimed, unable to believe that any Chinese writer could evoke genuine enthusiasm in a foreigner.

Now Ch'u Yuan's festival is but one of many means to enable youngsters to discover their country. His poem *Riddles*, which poses questions as to the structure of the world and sceptical queries about myths, shows the spirit of rational enquiry of that age, when mathematics, astronomy and calendar science were remarkably well developed. Such points will be brought out at this year's coming festival.

These poems paint a picture of the culture of the third century B.C., the craftmanship and arts of the Chinese of that ancient time, when their civilization had already long endured. In the poem *Requiem*, which was probably written to call back the soul of King Huai who died in exile in Ch'in, there occur many descriptions of the life at the Ch'u capital, to tempt back the king's soul. Nobles lived in spacious mansions:

> There great halls and their lofty domes are found,
> The rising porch with balusters around;
> With tow'rs and terraces beside the hill,
> The doors with crimson squares designed with skill;
> Thus warm in winter and in summer cool . . . .

There are magnificent descriptions of the interior of the palace, of the attentive retainers, the variety of food to please the most epicurean palate, (as has come down to the present time) the games and music:

Then draughts they play and chess with ivory wrought,
Divided all in pairs the games are fought;
The die is cast, they call the gods to aid;
They revel long until the day doth fade.

Some strike the urn and knock the wood frame o'er,
Some play the slanting lyre and sing once more,
Still wine they urge, forgetting night or day;
Within the bright lamp burns the orchid grey.
With skill and aptness, as with fragrance sweet
They chant the songs for such occasion meet.

Perhaps the king had been particularly fond of hunting, for *Requiem* ends with a description of a hunt and a final appeal to the king's soul to return:

And once in early spring, in days gone by,
I rode to hunt beneath a southern sky.
Angelicas and dogwood sprouted green,
My way stretched far across the stream was seen.
Then leftward o'er the lakes and woods I glanced;
Proudly my four black chargers stamped and pranced.
With thousand chariots thundering around
They fired the woods and passed the torches 'round

The sky grew red, the slaves pursued my steed,
So on I rode and let the slaves succeed,
I curbed my steed and turned him toward the right
To join the king; my sov'reign came in sight.
I urged my slaves, my sov'reign drove ahead,
The fierce rhinoceros at one shaft fell dead;

The fiery orb arose, the night star waned,
The years went past, no hour could be detained,
Now hidden is the path where orchids teem
Still stands the maple by the limpid stream;
A thousand miles away my heart doth yearn
Beyond the wailing stream, O Soul, return!"

Ch'u Yuan has been loved by progressives in each generation, and new generations read new qualities into his poems. Latterly, for instance, his championship of peace has been praised. Such expanding connotation is true of all works of genius which really live, and these interpretations tell us what the Chinese people value today.

China's millions have taken over the heritage so long denied them. When this poet is known abroad he will have the international status he deserves, and the world will be the richer.

A remarkable woman:

Shu Kwei-ying

JOSEPH STAROBIN

OUR trip to the main excavation project on the lower Huai River had begun at sunrise. The age-old stillness between night and day was broken only by the swish of the bamboo pole as the ferry took us across the Grand Canal.

We were setting out on what proved to be our most extraordinary day, with hours of riding on the ancient flood dikes between lowland villages, and then hours more in the company of the cheering, chanting peasants—40,000 of them—who were digging earth, sorting gravel, preparing timber for the new sluice gate.

Our Chinese friends were taking us back by way of a restful four-hour trip on a motor launch down the newly built irrigation canal.

When Shu Kwei-ying, a model worker on the project, came down to the cabin, we planned to ask her only a few questions. After all, she too must have been tired. But the interview with this extraordinary woman, one of the most remarkable I met in China, lasted more than two and a half hours.

Joseph Starobin is an American newspaperman currently visiting China. This is the fourth of a series of articles published in the Review.

Thirty-six years old and mother of four—the boys are 17 and 14, the girls 11 and 7 — Shu Kwei-ying had been chosen as the model worker from her village near Huaian. Of middling height, her black hair drawn back from a wide forehead, a ready smile revealing perfect white teeth that contrasted with the dark blue of her blouse and slacks, she was one among the thousands of Chinese women who had cheered us all along the voyage.

Perfectly at ease, with a frankness and grace that held us spellbound, she answered our scores of questions.

• • •

IN the fall of 1951, after a snowstorm, Shu Kwei-ying organized a group of women to clear the snow away so that work on the canal could continue. But why not go further, and organize a team of women? The idea was discussed among the 160 families of her village, and 14 women decided the time had come to show that the women also understood the importance of Chairman Mao's call to harness the Huai River.

And they went at it with the same energy and determination they showed in plowing and sowing their own fields.

What was Shu Kwei-ying's special achievement? She had noticed, in the section where her team was working, how water oozing into the sand made digging difficult. Her idea was to fashion a reed basket in such a way as to hold back the sand and let the water through, which made it possible to increase the amount of earth each woman could move per day from one cubic meter to three, as much as the men-folk.

It was as simple as that; but by variations of such ideas in every farm and village and factory the Chinese people are expanding their productive capacities a hundred-fold.

"And the village women—didn't they consider it strange for a women's brigade to be working on the Huai River project?" She looked at us curiously. "Not at all; our women know the suffering this

Twenty-one model workers on the Huai River conservancy project were awarded scholarships to complete their education. One of the model workers, Chin Hsiu-lan, delivers a short speech at a reception in honor of the group.

river has caused us for so many, many years."

"But the men," we asked, "Didn't they make fun of you?"

"When they saw what a good job we were doing, they said, 'That's the people's government for you! Only under our new government would our women-folk be working so well for the good of us all!'"

SHE herself, she told us, is not a Party member, nor was any of the other 13 members of the team. Before liberation, her family had three *mou* (half an acre) of land, from which they produced hardly enough food to feed themselves. Much of the time it was catch-as-catch-can, working for the landlords, often simply begging.

She and her husband had once tried to make ends meet by weaving baskets, but the other villagers were too poor to buy them.

Now, her family had six *mou*, and with the help of fertilizer, and no more danger of floods, they were really eating for the first time in their lives.

Who was taking care of the land while she was here at the project? "Oh, our mutual-aid team does that," she replied. "They are farming my land for me and also minding my two daughters. It works that way for all the peasants who spend time on the project."

Her husband is now in Shanghai, working in a textile mill. The two boys are with him. The family, in short, is making the transition from the countryside to the city just as this woman has made the leap from the miseries of feudalism to leadership in her community.

When the workers had democratically elected her to receive the coveted honor of "model worker," her husband wrote her a letter, saying "Very good. I am happy that you have been elected model worker. Continue your work for the taming of the unruly Huai River . . . "

And what were her ambitions, now that she was living better from the land and her husband was working, and she was receiving supplementary pay for her work on the project . . . did she plan to get new clothes?

She laughed and said, "I have two ambitions. I want my children who are now in school to have a higher education. As for me, when my work on this sluice gate is over in the next 20 days, I will try to make progress in learning how to read and write. These are my two big desires."

We asked again about the new clothes, but she waved her hand, "Why of course, now that we peasants are living better, we go to the cooperative and buy ourselves new cloth . . . "

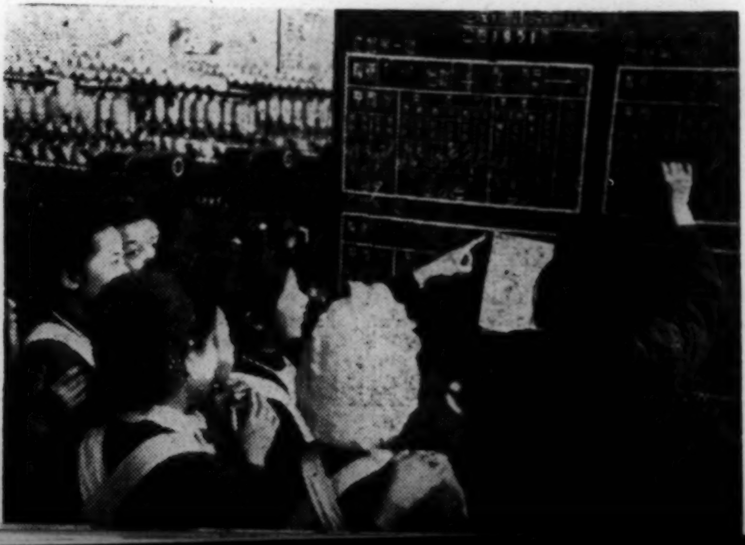
SHE disclosed the fact that she had just come from 16 days in Peking. As a model worker, the government had invited her to attend the great National Day celebrations on October 1. She beamed as she told us she had been at Chairman Mao's banquet on the eve of the peace conference, and said that she had seen the exhibition of agricultural machinery, the Summer Palace, the Hungarian Exposition . . .

Neither she nor anyone in her village had ever been to Peking before, she replied to our question; and then we asked her what had impressed her most.

"I saw a tractor at the Hungarian exposition . . . "

This opened a new line of questioning. With such a tractor, she said, production could be expanded many times. "But with only six *mou* you can't buy a tractor for yourself," we said. We wanted to know if these Chinese peasants who had just received land in the tremendous changeover from feudalism were going to oppose the mechanization of agriculture, which presupposed a certain amount of cooperation, and would ultimately lead to collective farming.

Women textile workers posting their production records on a factory blackboard. Many of the country's model workers, particularly in the textile industry, are women.



"Ah, no," she said, "we could use that tractor for many farms." We pointed out that her land was her own, but that the next piece of land belonged to another peasant: would they pool the land, or continue to own it separately?

"We'll decide that when the time comes," she shot back. As for the tractor, the village will buy that, and it will belong to the village, to all of us . . . "

In a flash, this still illiterate peasant woman had summed up, with complete aplomb and self-confidence, the whole course of future development.

It was obvious that she had no fear of either cooperative or collective farming, while it was just as plain that this was not the problem of the moment.

If the peasants of China were all like her, clearly they are only waiting for enough tractors to be available.

By this time we were firing one question after another. Our Chinese friends crowded around, enjoying how Shu Kwei-ying was handling us all. They too were fascinated by the power of new China reflected in her.

But didn't she want to travel elsewhere—to Shanghai, perhaps? No, not for the moment; she had the money for it, "but our first job is to finish taming the Huai River," she said. "First things come first."

BEFORE liberation, she had never heard of the Chinese Communist Party. She first heard of Chairman Mao Tse-tung when the Central People's Government was proclaimed and it was announced in her village that the land would be divided.

"I have heard Stalin spoken of," she said, "but you see I am not yet able to read and write . . . there are so many things I still know little about . . . " Her face beamed again in complete confidence that she would soon be in command of reading and writing—the keys to a new wide world.

Some one asked about religion. "Religion played no part in my life," she smiled. "My family was too poor to waste money buying incense to be burned in the temple."

Getting back to her visit to Peking, we asked which of the government officials had impressed her most. "Aside from Chairman Mao and Chu Teh," she said, "the one who most impressed me was our Minister of Water Conservancy, Fu Tso-yi . . ." Clearly, Shu Kwei-ying was single-minded about this great subject in her life, the taming of the river.

"And your daughters," we persisted, "You are making sure they have an education. But what about later on? Aren't you going to marry them to young men whom you and your husband will select?"

The whole cabin roared when she replied without blinking an eyelash, "Under our new marriage law, the choice of husbands is for the girls to decide. It's not for me to say . . . "

And did she have a final word, a message to American women? "Yes," she said. "Tell them what you have seen here in our country. Tell them about the peace conference, and say to them that the women of China want no more wars in their own country or in the world.

"And say to them for me, a mother of two sons, that I do not want my sons to have to meet their sons on the field of battle . . . "

Our motor launch had reached the dock, and night had fallen over the Grand Canal. As we hurried off to the building where dinner was waiting, our Chinese friend said, "There you have it, the foundation of the new China."

WATER CONSERVANCY IN CHINA

SINCE the formation of the people's government great water conservancy projects have been undertaken in many parts of China. The sum spent for this purpose in 1950 was 18 times; in 1951, 42 times; and in 1952, 52 times the highest annual figure during the Chiang Kai-shek regime. Statistics reveal that 1,700,000,000 cubic meters of earth have been moved, an excavation equivalent to that of 23 Suez or 10 Panama canals.

Work on the Huai River project alone will free 5,500,000 people living on 210,000 square kilometers of the threat of floods, irrigate 2,730,000 hectares of farmland, improve navigation on more than 500 kilometers of inland waterways, and generate tremendous hydraulic power.

The Huai River project plans also call for the completion of a survey this year of a more than 90,000 square-kilometer area west of Hungtze Lake. When completed, it will provide the necessary data for coming large-scale irrigation projects on the plains of eastern Honan and northern Anhwei.

Birthplace of People's Liberation Army

New Look for Nanchang

NANCHANG, commercial center and capital of Kiangsi province, is known as the birthplace of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. Lying to the west of Poyang Lake, the city is bounded by one of the most fertile plains lying in this rice-growing province. However, despite its excellent location, in the past the prosperity of Nanchang was only for the few rich and powerful.

Twenty-five years ago, on August 1, more than 30,000 people rose in Nanchang against Chiang Kai-shek's bloody betrayal of the Chinese Revolution which had seen the wholesale massacre of workers, peasants and intellectuals. It was the Nanchang uprising which laid the foundation for the eventual triumph of the Chinese peoples forces.

Old Nanchang's seeming prosperity was based on speculative commerce. In spite of some modern touches, it remained an 18th century city until the Japanese occupation; after six years of this Nanchang looked as if it had been hit by a tornado. Paving stones were dislodged, and in deserted lanes stood bomb-razed and fire-gutted houses. Out-of-the way places were piled with garbage; whole blocks of houses had been torn down, and many streets disappeared completely.

After the Japanese surrender, the refugees came back in a flood, only to face a serious housing shortage. A few wealthy built mansions for themselves; the under-priviledged crowded into dilapidated brick houses or huts hastily knocked together with planks and bamboo. Dire poverty and such housing conditions gave rise to many and terrible epidemics. Prices soared, wages rapidly dwindled, and people who lived on salaries were reduced to starvation and even suicide. In winter, it was not unusual to see beggars frozen to death on the streets.

During all the post-war years, the Kuomintang [KMT] government did nothing to alleviate these unbearable conditions, beyond publicly calling for alms for the poor, for whose poverty the government itself was responsible. In the last days of KMT rule, Nanchang was

in chaos: Skyrocketing prices—rice shortage—pork shortage—gold rush—silver dollars clinking at every street corner where money changers were doing a booming business. The *China Weekly Review* was banned, because it revealed the military defeats of the KMT in the north.

The rulers of Nanchang, preparing for escape, were trying to squeeze the last drop out of the people who, eager for liberation, were hoping desperately that the PLA would soon arrive.

Headquarters that directed the historic Nanchang Uprising on August 1, 1927.

SINCE liberation, Nanchang has changed from a commercial city, with a few backward handicrafts, to a center of mechanized industry. Old factories have been expanded and new ones are being established. The number of private industrial and commercial enterprises in Nanchang has registered a 20 percent increase in the past three years.

The Kiangsi Farm Tool Factory was formerly an UNRRA-run auto repair works with only about 40 workers and two lathes; its chief business was to repair autos for a handful of Americans. The whole shop was housed in a wooden room. The workers have now turned this into a factory of five large stone buildings and workshops, containing lathes, drilling machines, chisels, as well as the most up-to-date Soviet planers.

The factory also has its own foundry, forge, etc., and the number of workers has increased nearly tenfold.

It has turned out hundreds of durable farm implements at reasonable prices well within the budgets of the farmers, who often write in giving orders or making suggestions on the improvement of the tools. The factory is being ever enlarged; within the next five years it will be able to produce tractors on a large scale.

Another newly established factory is the Kiangsi Paper Mill, occupying close to 800 *mou* of land along the Kung River. The workers are not satisfied with their prodigious paper making machine, 72 meters long, which can turn out five tons of paper a day. They are studying devices that will enable this machine gradually to increase its output to 20 tons a day. This factory, like other factories here, also has a health center and workers' dormitories.

Another example of the rapid improvement of local industry is provided by the Nanchang Electric Power Company and Waterworks. In the old days, the enterprise was constantly in danger of suspending operations. The generators were running on short load, and the quantity of electricity put out by the two dynamos was only one-third of their capacity, leaving parts of the city in darkness and forcing the few industries to restrict production. The frequent suspension of water supply forced the inhabitants to use contaminated well water, resulting in the constant presence of dysentery, cholera and typhoid fever.

The company was always on the verge of bankruptcy, because the government institutions and high officials refused to pay their bills. The price of electricity was steadily raised until it became cheaper to use kerosene.

Under government initiative, the workers of the company, after a series of reforms, have made tremendous progress in every respect. The quantity of electricity generated has increased 15 times, water supply stations have increased from 32 to 57, and stoppage of supply is a thing of the past. At night, electric lights shine brightly in streets that formerly had no lighting. The repair of transmission lines has put an end to fires. Three reductions of charges have made electricity cheaper than kerosene.

The rapid recovery and improvement of local trade and industry would not have been made without the service of the railway which runs right across the middle of the province and makes Nanchang a communications center. Like other public utilities, the railway has undergone a metamorphosis, and is now in condition to help the industrialization of Kiangsi.

In physical aspects, the present-day city contrasts sharply with its pre-liberation condition. In the period of slightly more than three years, roads have been repaired and resurfaced and more than 12,000 meters of water mains repaired. Many muddy, narrow and small passages which used to be flooded during rainy seasons have now become broad and smooth streets with their sidewalks planted with saplings. The recent city-wide clean-up campaign has further made Nanchang a healthier place in which to live.

Formerly the city contained hundreds of old-fashioned public lavatories. They were the property of landlords, who charged the farmers an exorbitant price for the night soil but did nothing about the atrocious conditions of the lavatories. Since land reform, these properties have been turned over to the farmers, who repaired them and keep them very clean. Hundreds of modern-style public lavatories have been built.

The markets were notorious for their dirtiness; now they are so clean that flies are rarely seen. Many diseases have decreased greatly, and smallpox, cholera and plague have been wiped out completely.

In addition to physical changes, there are mental changes as well. With their living standard swiftly rising, there is a general demand for knowledge among the people. Most of the city's school-age children are attending schools, more than half of them children who in the past were deprived of education. The workers learn to read and write in their spare time.

Nanchang can now boast of colleges, specialized schools, high schools and primary schools with a total enrolment of more than 43,000 students. In addition, there are a great number of schools for government employees, as well as night schools and other types of spare-time schools. The Pa I (August 1) Revolutionary University, established three years ago for the purpose of training a large number of government workers to take part in the country's constantly expanding national construction, has turned out more than 3,000 graduates who are now working throughout the province.

The health of the students is well cared for. The food is very nourishing; meat and fish appear frequently, and special foods and milk are provided for weak students. The life of the staff members is also better, and in case of prolonged illness, the staff member can get full pay during his absence on leave.

Peasants shopping for piece goods in a city store.

People seem to be more interested in reading than ever before. The local public library is always filled to capacity. Everybody, young and old, is eager to learn. Hundreds of new books can be found in the library, which even has books published in various foreign countries. Throughout the city there are dozens of clubs, which are something combining a library and a school. Culture and education are made accessible to everyone.

In entertainment, Nanchang is second to no other city of the same size. There are three Peking opera theaters, with a total seating capacity of 5,000. There are four cinema houses, and a new 3,000-seat one is to be completed very soon. Besides these, there are small theaters playing Chekiang province opera, local opera, dancing and legitimate plays. All the theaters invariably play to full houses, particularly on Saturday evenings and Sundays, to people who never were able to afford theater-going under the KMT.

Since its liberation in May 1949, Nanchang has seen many changes, ones which have gone a long way to overcome the ravages of KMT rule and war. A new city is emerging, and for the population of 395,000 there will be no return to the old. As in so many places in new China all eyes are turned to the future.

CHINA NOTES

National Election Law

UNIVERSAL suffrage is one of the features of the election law recently promulgated to cover the elections to be held in China this year. For the first time in the nation's history tens of millions of people, workers and peasants will have the right to vote.

All citizens above the age of 18, irrespective of nationality, sex, occupation, social origin, religious belief, education, property or length of residence, are eligible to vote and to be elected. Women hold equal rights with men. Specific provisions are made for the minority nationalities, the armed forces and Overseas Chinese.

Under the election law, landlords who have not changed their social status, counter-revolutionaries who have been deprived of their political rights according to law, and the insane are all denied the right to vote and to be elected. This group is only a tiny fraction of the Chinese people and the percentage of voters out of the total population will be very high.

IN this year's elections the people will vote directly for delegates to people's congresses at the *hsiang*, town and city district level. These people's congresses will elect governments (such as county and provincial) and higher people's congresses, which in turn will elect the All-China People's Congress. This body is responsible for drawing up a constitution and electing the Central People's Government.

Proportionately, the city population and the minority people's will have a heavier representation in the All-China People's Congress. In the case of China's minority nationalities, the total number of people concerned amounts to roughly one-fourteenth of the population. According to the election law, the number of minority delegates to the All-China People's Congress can be estimated at nearly one-seventh of the total number of delegates.

Regarding nomination of candidates, the law provides that the Communist Party of China, the various other existing parties and groups, and people's organizations and electors or representatives not belonging to these parties, groups or organization can all nominate candidates, jointly or independently.

The law also stipulates that at the election, voters may vote for those on the list of candidates or for anyone not on the list as they wish.

Developing Natural Resources

CHINA is a nation rich in natural resources. Since the establishment of the new government tremendous progress has been made in discovering and developing the nation's rich mineral reserves. In the old days only a small fraction of the country's resources were exploited, and that for the benefit of a handful of Chinese and foreigners.

Last year saw great quantities of mineral reserves unearthed by geological workers. In the Lung Yen iron fields in North China, for example, on-the-spot investigations revealed that the region's iron reserves were several times greater than previously estimated. In the rich, but scarcely tapped, Northwest, survey teams looked into possible locations of oil, coal, limestone and mineral deposits. Petroleum areas and the structure of oil layers were marked out, and new mining areas worthy of excavation were discovered, reserves calculated and new mineral beds uncovered.

Rich copper deposits have been found in Kansu province. In addition, bornite, presumed to be very rare in the Eastern Hemisphere, has been discovered in south Shensi province, leading to the belief that China may have additional rich bornite deposits. All in all, Northwest China, six times the size of France, has some of the richest mineral deposits in China, and the area has great prospect of becoming one of China's major industrial centers in the future.

Throughout the nation, geological surveying and prospecting plans for 1953 are far greater than for any previous year. For instance, total government investment in surveying in the Northwest will be nearly seven times more than last year. Twice as many oil wells will be sunk in 1953 as compared to 1952, while work on other mineral reserves will top last year's quota by 33 percent.

To meet the growing need of new China's work on the nation's resources a large number of workers are being trained this year. Training classes and special schools are being set up all over the country. For example, in Southwest China, in addition to two new special training classes for drilling workers, which have enrolled more than 1,000 students, a new large training class is to be set up this year.

The bureau in charge of prospecting and surveying mineral reserves in the Northwest is training nearly 2,000 workers in drilling, surveying, drawing and analysis during the present year.

Facts on New China

NEW China's industry has been growing steadily since the founding of the government in October 1949. For example, industrial production, with a few exceptions, has surpassed top pre-liberation levels.

In preparing for the beginning of the nation's first Five-Year Plan, which means the start of basic large-scale construction, this year, the tempo of development has been speedier in heavy industry. Emphasis has been laid on the output of capital goods. In 1949, the ratio between capital and consumer goods was 32.5 to 67.5; last year, it was 43.8 to 56.2. Development in state-owned enterprises is greater than in private enterprises. In 1949, the ratio between production in the former and the latter was 43.8 to 56.2; in 1952, it was 67.3 to 32.7.

The following is a table showing the growth of production between 1949 and 1952:

GROWTH OF PRODUCTION
(Highest pre-liberation level taken as 100)

	1949	1952 (planned)
Electricity	72	115
Coal	45	90
Petroleum	38	136
Pig-iron	11	104
Steel ingots	16	155
Cement	31	148
Cotton Cloth	73	161
Paper	90	234

IN agriculture, which affects nearly 90 percent of the nation's population, land reform has been completed in areas with

300,000,000 people, in addition to 128,000,000 in the old liberated areas. If the highest pre-liberation annual levels of key agricultural products are taken as 100, planned output last year was as follows:

Foodstuffs, 109; Cotton, 155; Hemp, 559; tobacco, 294; and unrefined sugar, 113.

More than 40 percent of the peasant families in China have organized mutual-aid teams. There are over 4,000 agricultural cooperatives, a dozen collective farms, and 52 state farms.

FINANCE and trade have expanded greatly. The nation's inflation was ended and commodity prices stabilized since March 1950. In 1952, for the first time in years, the budget was balanced, and during last year the general price index dropped about five percent. Both home and foreign trade have developed.

HOME TRADE EXPANSION

(Total sales in 1950 taken as 100)

	Total Sales	
	1951	1952 (planned)
Agricultural produce, by-products and handicrafts	138.66	148.61
Foodstuffs	170.21	271.28
Cotton cloth	167.27	245.76
Coal	115.80	141.86
Petroleum	108.90	262.67
Cigarettes	112.06	149.41

China's foreign trade no longer shows the unfavorable balance it held for 73 years. In 1951 trade doubled that of 1950, and has increased steadily with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. In 1950, this accounted for 26 percent of the total value of foreign trade; in 1951, it went up to 61 percent; and last year, it was estimated at 70 percent.

LIVING standards have risen, as shown by wage increases for workers and office employees in different areas of the country. These ranged from 60 percent to 120 percent last year over those of 1949. At the same time, 3,020,000 workers and office employees (a total of 10,000,000 including family members) now enjoy free medical care under the national Labor Insurance Regulations. In 1951, purchasing power of people throughout China was 25 percent above that of 1950.

The Chinese People

THE death of Soviet premier Joseph Stalin was an occasion for deep sorrow and mourning on the part of the people of China.

From dawn to midnight, following the announcement of Stalin's death in Moscow on March 5, thousands converged on the Soviet Embassy in Peking, forming a line which at times stretched for more than one mile. One hundred thousand men and women of all walks of life came to express their condolences.

In Shanghai, Tientsin, Canton, Mukden, Harbin and other cities people paid their respects at Soviet consulates. In factories, shops, offices, and schools, workers and students gathered in spontaneous meetings to express their sorrow.

On March 9, memorial meetings were held throughout China. More than 600,000 people gathered in Peking's historic Tienanmen Square to honor the memory of Stalin. All over China, at 5.00 p.m., Peking time, a five-minute silence was observed; all traffic came to a stop and pedestrians stood still in the streets to pay their respects.

IN an article, "The Greatest Friendship," Chairman Mao Tse-tung said: "Comrade Stalin's contribution to our era through his activities as regards both theory and practice is beyond estimation. Comrade Stalin is representative of the whole of this new era of ours. His activities have led the Soviet people and the working people of all countries to transform the whole world situation, which means that the cause of justice, of People's Democracy and Socialism has attained victory over an immense sector in the world. . .

"The passing of Comrade Stalin has evoked unparalleled grief among the working people of the whole world, has stirred the hearts of upright people all over the world. . .

"Since the passing of Lenin, Comrade Stalin has always been the central figure in the world Communist movement. We rallied around him, ceaselessly asked his advice and constantly drew ideological strength from his works. Comrade Stalin was full of warm love for the oppressed people of the East. 'Do not forget the East' was Comrade Stalin's

Mourn Stalin's Death

great call after the October Revolution. . . .

"To the problems of the Chinese revolution, he contributed his sublime wisdom. And it was by following the theories of Lenin and Stalin and with the support of the great Soviet Union and all the revolutionary forces of all other countries that the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese people a few years ago won their historic victory. . . .

"The reason why the friendship between the great peoples of China and the Soviet Union is unbreakable, is that our friendship has been built up on the great principles of internationalism of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin.

"The friendship between the Chinese and Soviet peoples, the peoples of the various People's Democracies, and all people who love peace, democracy and justice in all countries of the world, is also built upon this great principle of internationalism and is therefore also unbreakable."

In an article in the Peking *People's Daily*, Soong Ching-ling (Madame Sun Yat-sen) wrote that not only had Stalin "guided his Soviet people to building and protecting the future of all mankind, but his daily effort also showed great concern for any oppressed people, no matter how far from him. . . . It made Stalin our friend, our teacher, our comrade and leader."

Soong Ching-ling said that Stalin knew "that the Chinese are a heroic people, capable of performing miracles and emerging victorious from the most gruelling tests, just as the Soviet people, that both peoples can endure self-sacrificing struggle, render supreme sacrifice for mankind, save civilization and raise it to a higher point.

"Stalin's faith in the Chinese people was part of the inseparable link he forged with the international working class movement, for the emancipation of all toilers, and for the national independence of all colonial peoples from the yoke of imperialism. His every word was backed by deeds, and the Chinese people will never forget that in all the years of our struggles against foreign imperialism and native feudalism and militarism, his assistance never wavered for an instant . . . "

THE PANCHEN LAMA'S HISTORIC RESIDENCE

The return of the Panchen Lama to Tibet last year symbolized the unity of the two Tibetan religious and political leaders—the Dalai Lama and the Panchen Lama. Pictures show the beautiful and historic Tashi Lhumpo Monastery, residence of the Panchen Lama, situated in Shigatse, the capital of west Tibet.

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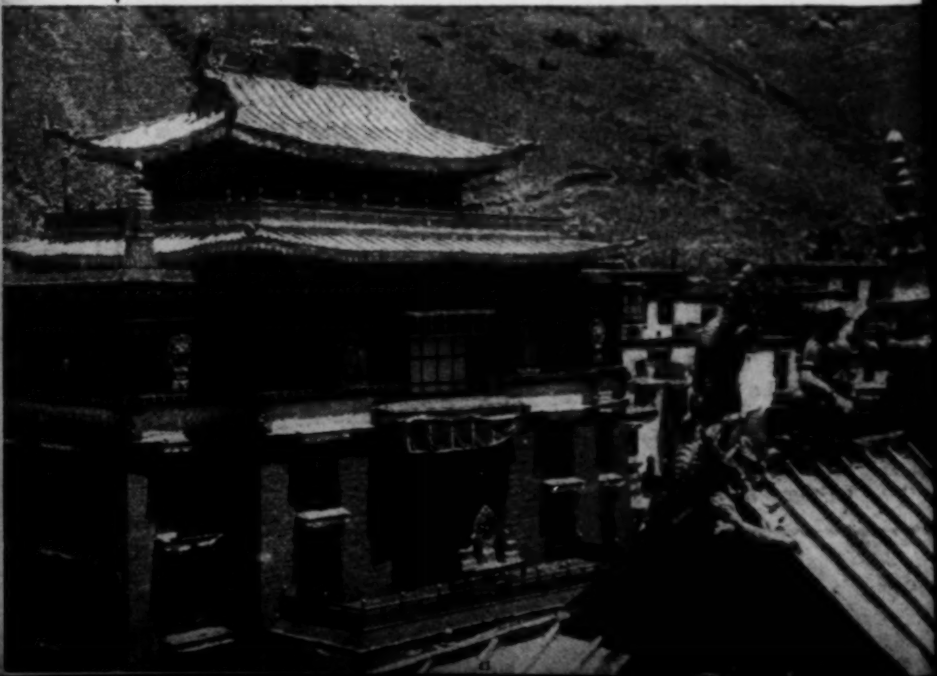
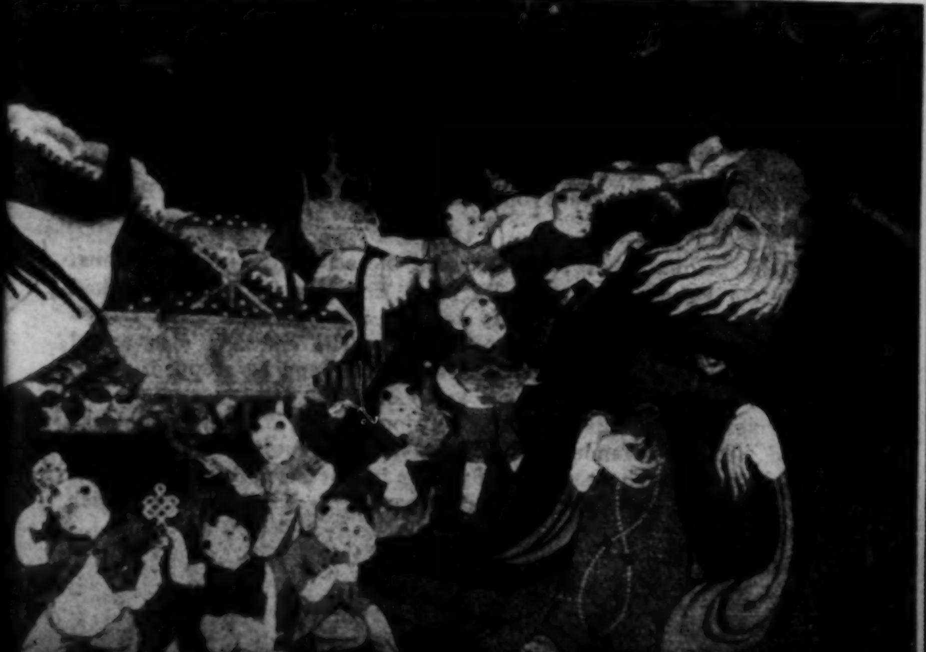
Below: a view of the residence. Upper right: one of the many Buddhas in the Monastery. Lower right: a fresco inside the Monastery, which shows the high artistic development of the Tibetan people.





INTERNATIONAL NOTES

Fighting in Burma

PRIME Minister U Nu has told the Burma Parliament that his government will soon bring the question of Chiang Kai-shek's troops, who are "increasing their nefarious deeds" in Burma, before the United Nations. The statement came on the heels of increasing clashes on Burma territory between Kuomintang and Burmese troops.

Washington has been maintaining and supplying these troops for new aggressive actions against China since they were driven out of south China in 1950.

On August 8, 1951, the *New York Times*' Saigon correspondent reported: "The French here are of the opinion that the US has played an important role, through the Central Intelligence Agency in the Chinese Nationalist [Kuomintang] move out of Burma."

On December 31, 1951, *AP* noted that Chiang Kai-shek's American overseer on Taiwan, General Chase, had publicly mentioned for the first time the possibility that the US and KMT "would work as a team . . . whether it be on this island or in other troubled areas."

Early last year, the *Bangkok Post* quoted an official Burmese representative in London to the effect that KMT troops were continually passing through Thailand and 10,000 KMT troops were using Kengtang as their base of operations. Meanwhile, the London *Daily Express*' Washington correspondent reported that American pilots were flying arms to KMT troops on the Burma-China border.

THE beginning of 1953 has seen increased fighting in Burma. On February 16, the Burmese Embassy in Bangkok asked the Thailand government to stop the movement of KMT troops through their territory into Burma. The embassy also asked that the smuggling of arms through Thailand be stopped.

The KMT "who went over to outright attacks against the Burmese early this month . . . fought . . . from roadblocks and strongly-defended hill positions," *UP* reported on February 24 in a dispatch describing fighting in northern Burma.

A few days earlier, AP reported a KMT attack which resulted in the killing of an Italian priest and inflicting casualties on the defending Burmese garrison at Muse.

In Rangoon, a Burmese government statement estimated the number of KMT forces in Burma at 12,000. On March 1, *AP* reported that new KMT troops "have arrived from Thailand," and on March 11 (*AP*, Rangoon), "Defense Minister Ba Swe said the Burmese government has conclusive proof 'a few Americans' have been active in training and arming Chinese Nationalists [Kuomintang] guerillas now fighting Burma's Army near this country's borders with Communist China and Thailand."

"New American carbines, mortars and even rocket launchers have been found on dead or captured Chinese Nationalists according to the Burmese War Office." (*AP*, Rangoon, March 10)

Inside South Korea

"WAR and official tolerance of corruption in localities have almost driven legitimate merchants out of business. It's more profitable to deal on the black market, export and import illegally and manipulate currency," writes *INS* correspondent Robert S. Elegant about life in Syngman Rhee's South Korea this past winter.

Completely sympathetic with the US "police action" in Korea, Elegant looks upon the distress of the Korean people through the eyes of a supercilious foreigner. Yet, sifting through his bland approval of such wheezes as "The traditional oriental apathy toward the suffering of others is another cause of misery in Korea," and "it is impossible for foreigners to pull an entire nation up by its bootstraps. And the Koreans will not or cannot do much for themselves," the reader obtains some idea of the poverty and bad government rampant in South Korea.

According to Elegant, the South Koreans are having their "worst times since the start of Japanese occupation in 1905," and all that can be done is to "check the country's economic chaos."

Referring to the frozen corpses picked up on the streets of Seoul, Elegant goes on to say that "deaths are caused by exposure to zero temperature without proper clothes or shelter, malnutrition and diseases like typhus, typhoid, smallpox and relapsing fever. White lice carry many diseases . . . The government does little to fight disease."

A bag of rice, containing 37 pounds, "costs the Korean 100,000 *won* [about US$16] but the average Korean family makes only 150,000 to 200,000 *won* a month. Eggs and meat are unknown in the family diet, but they prize a little dried fish."

Describing the case of 30 year-old Kim Sam-bul, who was finally taken to a hospital suffering from starvation, disease and cold, the *INS* correspondent noted that Kim had lived in "a hovel with mud and newspaper walls."

"From September to January he had earned 1,000 *won* a day by carrying burdens or washing down stalls in the public market. Business at the market fell off, with the advent of winter, and his disease-wracked body could stand no more." Kim died two hours after he entered the hospital.

THE Indian weekly, *Delhi Times*, in an article on another aspect of conditions inside South Korea, claimed that retired US General Robert Eichelberger, commander-in-chief of the US 8th Army in Japan in 1948, used his high rank and position to strike a deal with Syngman Rhee for the purchase of the rich Prosong wolfram deposits in the Neson area.

According to the weekly, the general's brother, Frank Eichelberger, has organized the mining of wolfram in the Neson area, using prisoners of war and paying meager wages to South Korean labor. The mines are operating in three shifts, and working conditions are poor and dangerous. In 1952, cave-ins and accidents caused the death of 340 South Korean workers and war prisoners.

The *Delhi Times* also stated that with the help of the US Army, American mining companies are carrying on intensive copper extraction around Mirian, lead and tin in Yobosan, Fengyang and Echon and also the mining of manganese and silver. More than 30,000 workers are employed by these companies.

Products, such as wolfram and ferrous metals, are exported to the US and then resold to Western Europe at a high profit. Three of the chief companies are the US Minerals' Engineering Corporation, the American Manganese Steel Corporation, and Kennecott Copper, the weekly said.

"THE American military army obviously places different value on the lives of Koreans and Americans . . . A Korean's life apparently means nothing." So said South Korean Reverend Chun Pil Sun of the Seoul presbytery in commenting on the case of a murdered Korean clergyman.

Last December a US Army 2nd-Lieutenant, James Goff, presumably looking for stolen property, accompanied by three enlisted men, entered a South Korean home where he pistol-whipped to death a prominent Presbyterian minister who protested. In February, a US military court in Seoul, after deliberating the case for one hour and 35 minutes, sentenced the lieutenant to two years in prison and dismissal from the army.

The minister, Pang Wha Il, father of four children, was secretary of the Korean Council of Churches.

Zaibatsu Back in the Saddle

"SINCE April [1952], when Japan regained her sovereignty, the Zaibatsu (literally 'money groups') have shown increasing signs of returning to their pre-war lead in the Japanese economic world." (*Reuter*, Tokyo, February 16, 1953)

Japanese sources reveal steady encroachment on small business by the Zaibatsu, big business partners of the Japanese military in World War II. Even before "Japan regained her sovereignty" the way was cleared with US approval for the return of the Zaibatsu, which was supposedly outlawed in the early days of the occupation. On December 11, 1951, the Japanese government completed the drafting of a series of bills aimed at restoring this greatest of all Japanese cartels.

Reporting from Japan at the time, *UP* revealed that the bills would erase all formal restrictions. Bans on the use of Zaibatsu trademarks and commercial brand names would be done away with, restrictions on shares held by Zaibatsu family members and directors would be cancelled, and an end would be put to limitations on top and medium level Zaibatsu executives in a single firm.

Recent developments show that this spadework was not in vain. According to *Reuter*, some financial experts in Japan consider that the Korean war and consequent fluctuation in the economy helped pave the way for the Zaibatsu revival.

For example, small firms which imported raw materials at very high prices during the early war boom found themselves in serious financial difficulties later, as the boom wore thin. This year's reduction in US procurement orders aggravated their plight. Thus, these small firms turned to the Zaibatsu-dominated banks for loans.

The Japanese Economic Board, in a report on the first half of the current fiscal year, revealed that big companies have continued to accumulate capital, while smaller companies were forced to economize in every direction.

"Many Japanese financial leaders have been urging a greater concentration of capital in Japan. They argue that reorganization of those small companies which have been a 'burden' on Japan's economy would speed up Japan's economic recovery," according to *Reuter*.

Map shows:

SITUATION IN VIET-NAM

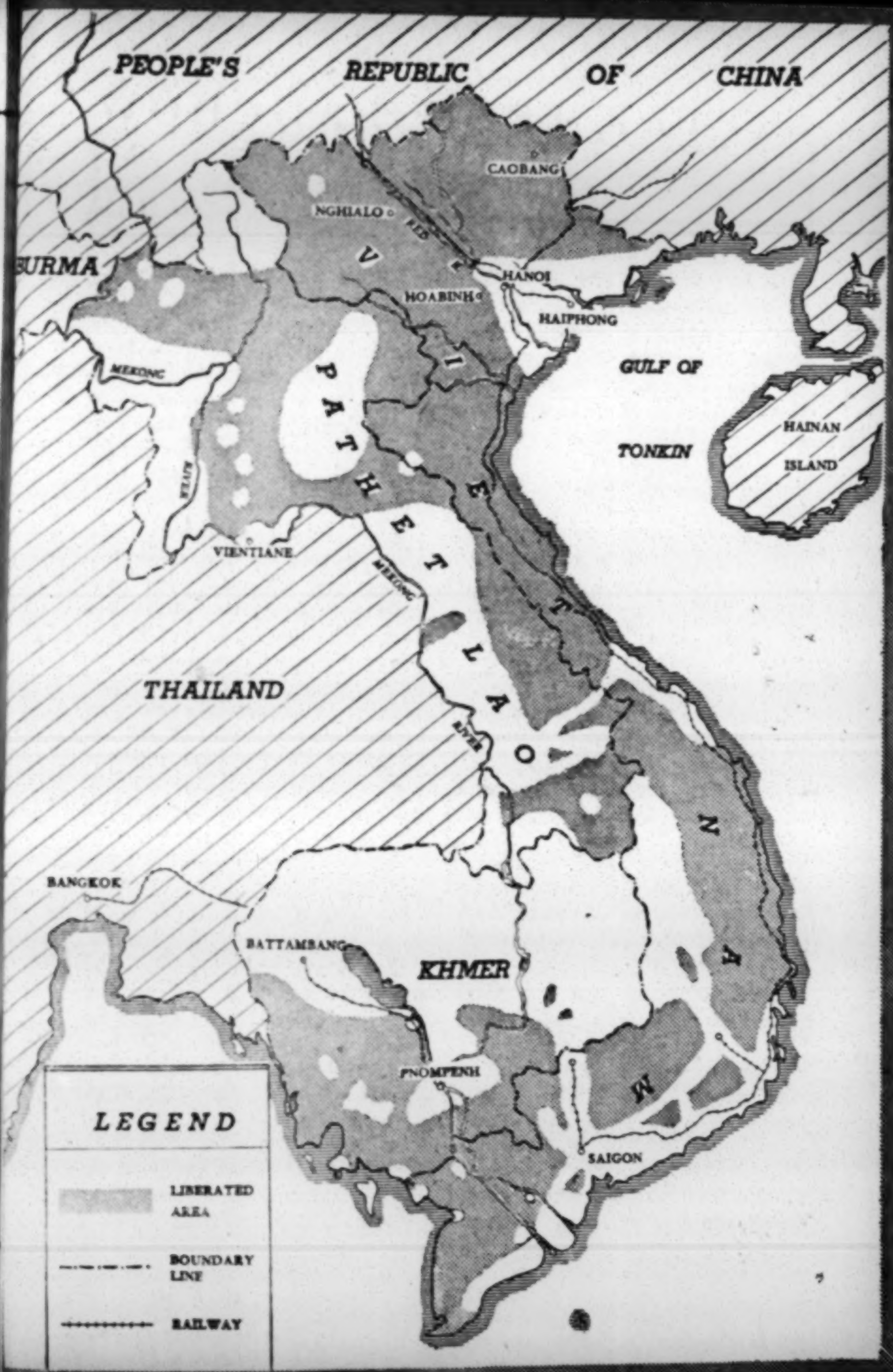
FOR more than six years the people of Viet-Nam, Pathet Lao and Khmer have been repulsing the efforts of French colonialism to re-impose its rule on what was once known as French Indo-China. Militarily, the people's independence forces have grown stronger steadily and today are in control of about two-thirds of the entire area. Guerilla activities are a constant threat to the French and their puppets in remaining territory.

Spectacular military victories in the north late last year, which were followed up in Central Viet-Nam early in 1953, have expanded the liberated area of Viet-Nam, and demonstrated and consolidated the growing power of the Viet-Nam People's Army.

The liberation of the rich rice-bowl area around Nghialo, 95 miles northwest of the important city of Hanoi, according to *Reuter*, was "the biggest French reverse since French forces evacuated Hoabinh on February 25 [1952]." January and February victories in Central Viet-Nam, have put Viet-Nam forces astride the gateway to the southern part of this sector.

Prior to this, the north was a relatively safe place for the French. However, after their defeat 80 percent of the area came into Viet-Nam hands and remaining French posts were isolated. These victories placed the people's forces in a position to join with troops and guerillas fighting in central Viet-Nam, and at the same time increased the threat to the vital Red River Delta.

Commenting on the Viet-Nam war, *AP* correspondent Larry Allen wrote: "The French government is spending a billion dollars annually . . . In addition, France is losing . . . every year more army, navy and air force officers than she graduates from all of her military and naval academies."


PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
BURMA
CAOBANG
NGHIALO
RED RIVER
HANOI
HOABINH
HAIPHONG
GULF OF TONKIN
HAINAN ISLAND
MEKONG
RIVER
VIENTIANE
MEKONG RIVER
PATHET LAO
VIETNAM
THAILAND
BANGKOK
BATTAMBANG
KHMER
PNOMPENH
SAIGON
LEGEND
LIBERATED AREA
BOUNDARY LINE
RAILWAY

LETTER FROM LANCHOW

LIN CHI-HAN

WE in Lanchow like to think of ourselves as being in the very heart of China. We are in the center of our country, and also at the confluence of great trade routes, ancient and new, extending in every direction. Here in the vast Northwest, sheepskin rafts float down the river, transporting products—felt, wool, skins—from remote regions to Lanchow. There are many truck and bus routes, and railroads are beginning to take the place of former horse and camel caravans.

Lanchow is in a beautiful setting. The Yellow River rushes along, first beside high, bare rocky mountain ranges, and then through fertile farmland. Especially lovely are the spring and summer, when trees and bushes blossom out and the river banks become verdant with new wheat and vegetables.

Surely it is beautiful to Shu Je-han, who was a desperately poor farmer until he received his two *mou* of land in land reform. Fired with enthusiasm and love for the country of which he had become a part, he worked hard to increase his crops, and now he is a labor hero. Farmer Shu's harvest amounted to 240 kilograms of grain per *mou*. After the crop was in Shu had enough cash to take care of his year's living expenses, to make a donation to the volunteers in Korea, buy some extra cloth for the family and still have some left over for other uses.

Shu's city counterparts are also sharing in the new life. Many new houses have been built for workers. There are about 40 rows of houses in the "New Village;" each bedroom has good ventilation and plenty of sunshine. A new house was a rare sight in Lanchow in the past. Other construction work has started in the city and throughout Kansu province.

All the main streets of Lanchow as well as the central square and some small lanes have received much-needed repairs since August 1950. The power plant, destroyed by the fleeing agents of notorious warlord Ma Pu-fang, has bee restored. To prevent further floods, the Lao Tah river dam was constructed last year, and the Lao Tah bridge, with a load capacity up to 200 tons, was opened to traffic in March 1952.

Private enterprise is now in better condition than ever before. Legitimate business firms are making a profit, and in order to assist them the Consolidated Loan Committee and state trading company branches have been set up by the government.

Women are also playing a part in building a new Lanchow. Now, women have the right to participate in political and economic affairs on a basis of complete equality with men. Many, including women of minority nationalities, hold jobs in public organizations.

In the past, the people were kept in darkness and ignorance. Ninety percent of the population in Kansu was illiterate; only the children of landlords and warlords received an education. At present, education is available to the people as a whole. There are 7,656 elementary and secondary schools being attended by nearly 640,000 children. Sixty percent of the elementary school pupils are children of workers and farmers.

To many workers, studying is now a habit, and almost as important as food itself, so great has become the thirst for knowledge. In the evenings, workers and farmers march in groups to their spare-time schools, singing the new songs. Old housewives, whose heads in the past were filled with feudal ideas and superstition, are among those now attending these schools.

Throughout all Kansu pro-

One of the many bridges on the Tienshui-Lanchow Railway. An extension of the Lunghai Railway, this line bisects China laterally from east to west and will finally terminate at Tihua, capital of the far northwestern province of Sinkiang.

vince, in town and village, radios broadcast regular programs, news and music every day.

Lanchow has made tremendous advances in health and welfare work since liberation. New hospitals and clinics have been set up. In the past two years, a nation-wide vaccination program was launched, and the residents of this province have been nearly 100 percent vaccinated. There still are a small number of children, former vagabonds, who suffer from eye and skin diseases and stomach trouble resulting from undernourishment, unsanitary conditions and heavy work in the past. These youngsters are now receiving proper care in nurseries.

A NEW DAY DAWNS

With the establishment of the people's government a new day arrived for China's long-exploited minority peoples. In many areas they now have their own autonomous governments.

Below: Miao's buying salt at a village market in Kweichow province. A rare and expensive luxury in the past, salt is now available in quantity at reasonable prices for these mountain dwellers.

Right: Mongolians from Inner Mongolia, Koreans from Kirin in China's Northeast and other minorities in the national capital at Peking.

THE minority nationalities, principally Moslems and Mongolians, no longer are segregated or discriminated against. Formerly, there were massacres in which large numbers of these people lost their lives. At the time, it was government policy to stir up strife and discord deliberately in order to facilitate the economic exploitation of the minorities.

Today, the people's government is aiding the minority peoples in carrying out regional autonomy, in order that they may rapidly develop politically, economically and culturally. Never before in China's history was there a real attempt to solve the nationality problem.

Education on a broad scale is now open to national minorities, and the government grants subsidies to their children who may need additional aid. Studies are conducted in their own languages—a practice formerly forbidden. Minorities in the Northwest have their own university in Lanchow.

A new spirit of friendship has grown up between the minorities in Lanchow and the predominant Hans. For example, when the Moslems observed their Corban festival last September first, the Hans in the city visited them and brought gifts. In addition, Han people in groups visited relatives of Moslem revolutionary martyrs and servicemen.

For these and many more reasons, the people of Lanchow are looking to the future, with promise of a fuller life in the coming years.

Statements of captured U.S. Marine Corps officers

Proof of Germ Warfare

THE depositions made by two senior US Marine Corps officers, Colonel Frank H. Schwable and Major Roy H. Bley, have added to the mass of evidence of the use of germ warfare by the United States. Giving details and naming high-placed and responsible US military personnel, the statements of these two officers provide further proof that the US has continued to employ germ warfare against Korea and China, and was developing it from an experimental stage to a combat operational level with plans for employing germ weapons on an even larger scale.

The following depositions, recorded by Colonel Schwable and Major Bley, were broadcast over Radio Peking and published by Hsinhua news agency in Peking at the end of February.

I AM Colonel Frank H. Schwable, 04429, and was Chief-of-Staff of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing until shot down and captured on July 8, 1952.

My service with the Marine Corps began in 1929 and I was designated an aviator in 1931, seeing duty in many parts of the world. Just before I came to Korea, I completed a tour of duty in the Division of Aviation at Marine Corps Headquarters

I arrived in Korea on April 10, 1952, to take over my duties as Chief-of-Staff of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. All my instructions and decisions were subject to confirmation by the Assistant Commanding General, Lamson-Scribner. Just before I assumed full responsibility for the duties of Chief-of-Staff, General Lamson-Scribner called me into his office to talk over various problems of the Wing. During this conversation he said: "Has Binney given you all the background on the special missions run by V.M.F.-513?" I asked him if he meant "Suprop" (our code name for bacteriological bombs) and he confirmed this. I told him I had been given all of the background by Colonel Binney.

Colonel Arthur A. Binney, the officer I relieved as Chief-of-Staff, had given me, as his duties required that he should, an outline of the general plan of bacteriological warfare in Korea and the details of the part played up to that time by the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

The general plan for bacteriological warfare in Korea was directed by the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff in October, 1951. In that month the Joint Chiefs of Staff sent a directive by hand to the Commanding General, Far East Command (at that time General Ridgway), directing the initiation of bacteriological warfare in Korea on an initially small, experimental stage but in expanding proportion.

This directive was passed to the Commanding General, Far East Air Force, General Weyland, in Tokyo. General Weyland then called into personal conference General Everest, Commanding General of the 5th Air Force in Korea, and also the Commander of the 19th Bomb Wing at Okinawa, which unit operates directly under F.E.A.F.

The plan that I shall now outline was gone over, the broad aspects of the problem were agreed upon and the following information was brought back to Korea by General Everest, personally and verbally, since for security purposes, it was decided not to have anything in writing on this matter in Korea and subject to possible capture.

* * *

THE basic objective was at that time to test, under field conditions, the various elements of bacteriological warfare, and to possibly expand the field tests, at a later date, into an element of the regular combat operations, depending on the results obtained and the situation in Korea.

The effectiveness of the different diseases available was to be tested, especially for their spreading or epidemic qualities under various circumstances, and to test whether each disease caused a serious disruption to enemy operations and civilian routine or just minor inconveniences, or was contained completely, causing no difficulties. Various types of armament or containers were to be tried out under field conditions and various types of aircraft were to be used to test their suitability as bacteriological bomb vehicles.

Terrain types to be tested included high areas, seacoast areas, open spaces, areas enclosed by mountains, isolated areas, areas relatively adjacent to one another, large and small towns and cities, congested cities and those relatively spread out. Every possible type or combination of areas were to be tested.

These tests were to be extended over an unstated period of time but sufficient to cover all extremes of temperature found in Korea.

All possible methods of delivery were to be tested as well as tactics developed to include, initially, night attack and then expanding into day attack by specialized squadrons. Various types of bombing were to be tried out and various combinations

Colonel Frank H. Schwable recording his deposition.

of bombing, from single planes up to and including formations of planes, were to be tried out with bacteriological bombs used in conjunction with conventional bombs.

Enemy reactions were particularly to be tested or observed by any means available to ascertain what his counter-measures would be, what propaganda steps he would take, and to what extent his military operations would be affected by this type of warfare.

Security measures were to be thoroughly tested—both friendly and enemy. On the friendly side, all possible steps were to be taken to confine knowledge of the use of this weapon and to control information on the subject. On the enemy side, every possible means was to be used to deceive the enemy and prevent his actual proof that the weapon was being used.

Finally, if the situation warranted, while continuing the experimental phase of bacteriological warfare according to the Joint Chiefs of Staff directive, it might be expanded to become a part of the military or tactical effort in Korea.

* * *

THE B-29s from Okinawa began using bacteriological bombs in November, 1951, covering targets all over North Korea in what might be called random bombing. One night the target might be in Northeast Korea and the next night in Northwest Korea. Their bacteriological bomb operations were conducted in combination with normal night armed reconnaissance as a measure of economy and security.

Early in January, 1952, General Schilt, then Commanding General of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, was called to 5th Air Force Headquarters in Seoul, where General Everest told him of the directive issued by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and ordered him to have V.M.F.-513—Marine Night Fighter Squadron 513 of Marine Aircraft Group 33 of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing—participate in the bacteriological warfare program. V.M.F.-513 was based on K 8, the Air Force base at Kunsan of the 3rd Bomb Wing, whose B-26s had already begun bacteriological operations. V.M.F.-513 was to be serviced by the 3rd Bomb Wing.

While all Marine aircraft (combat types) shore-based in Korea operate directly under the 5th Air Force, with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing being kept informed of their activities, when a new or continuing program is being initiated, the 5th Air Force normally has initially informed the Wing as a matter of courtesy.

Towards the end of January, 1952, Marine night fighters of 513 Squadron, operating as single planes on night armed reconnaissance, and carrying bacteriological bombs, shared targets with the B-26s covering the lower half of North Korea with the greatest emphasis on the western portion. Squadron 513 coordinated with the 3rd Bomb Wing on all these missions, using F-7 F aircraft (Tiger Cats) because of their twin engine safety.

K 8 (Kunsan) offered the advantage of take-off directly over the water, in the event of engine failure and both the safety and security of over water flights to enemy territory.

For security reasons, no information on the types of bacteria being used was given to the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

In March, 1952, General Schilt was again called to 5th Air Force Headquarters and verbally directed by General Everest to prepare Marine Photographic Squadron One (V.M.J.-1 Squadron) of Marine Aircraft Group 33, to enter the program. V.M.J.1 based at K 3, Marine Aircraft Group 33's base at Pohang, Korea, was to use F-2 H-2 P photographic reconnaissance aircraft (Banshees).

The missions would be intermittent and combined with normal photographic missions and would be scheduled by 5th Air Force in separate, Top Secret orders.

The Banshees were brought into the program because of their specialized operations, equipment, facilities and isolated area of operations at K 3. They could penetrate further into North Korea as far as enemy counter-action is concerned and worked in two plane sections involving a minimum of crews and disturbance of normal missions. They could also try out bombing from high altitudes in horizontal flight in conjunction with photographic runs.

During March, 1952, the Banshees of Marine Photographic Squadron One commenced bacteriological operations, continuing and expanding the bacteriological bombing of North Korean towns, always combining these operations with normal photographic missions. Only a minimum of bomb supplies were kept on hand to reduce storage problems and the 5th Air Force sent a team of two officers and several men to K 3 (Pohang) to instruct the Marine specialists in handling the bombs.

The Navy's part in the program was with the F-9 Fs (Panthers), ADs (Skyraiders) and standard F-2 Hs (Banshees), as distinct from the photographic configuration, using carriers off the east coast of Korea.

The Air Force had also expanded its own operations to include squadrons of different type aircraft, with different methods and tactics of employing bacteriological warfare.

This was the situation up to my arrival in Korea. Subsequent thereto, the following main events took place.

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DURING the latter part of May, 1952, the new Commanding General of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, General Jerome, was called to the 5th Air Force Headquarters and given a directive for expanding bacteriological operations. The directive was given personally and verbally by the new Commanding General of the 5th Air Force, General Barcus.

On the following day, May 25, General Jerome outlined the new stage of bacteriological operations to the Wing staff at a meeting in his office at which I was present in my capacity as Chief-of-Staff.

The other staff members of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing present were: General Lamson-Scribner, Assistant Commanding General; Colonel Stage, Intelligence Officer (G-2); Colonel Wendt, Operations Officer (G-3) and Colonel Clark, Logistics Officer (G-4).

The directive from General Barcus, transmitted to and discussed by us that morning, was as follows:

A contamination belt was to be established across Korea in an effort to make the interdiction program effective in stopping enemy supplies from reaching the front lines. The Marines would take the left flank of this belt, to include the two cities of Sinanju and Kunuri and the area between and around them. The remainder of the belt would be handled by the Air Force in the center and the Navy in the east or right flank.

Marine Squadron 513 would be diverted from its random targets to this concentrated target, operating from K8 (Kunsan), still serviced by the 3rd Bomb Wing using F-7 Fs (Tiger Cats) because of their twin engine safety. The Squadron was short of these aircraft but more were promised.

The responsibility for contaminating the left flank and maintaining the contamination was assigned to the Commander of Squadron 513 and the schedule of operations left to the Squadron's discretion, subject to the limitations that:

The initial contamination of the area was to be completed as soon as possible and the area must then be recontaminated or replenished, at periods not to exceed 10 days.

Aircraft engaged on these missions would be given a standard night armed reconnaissance mission, usually in the Haeju Peninsula. On the way to the target, however, these planes would go via Sinanju or Kunuri, drop their bacteriological bombs and then complete their normal missions. This would add to the security and interfere least with normal missions.

Reports on this program of maintaining the contamination belt would go direct to 5th Air Force, reporting normal mission number so and so had been completed "via Sinanju" or "via Kunuri" and stating how many "Super-propaganda" bombs had been dropped.

Squadron 513 was directed to make a more accurate "truck count" at night than had been customary in order to determine or detect any significant change in the flow of traffic through its operating area.

General Barcus also directed that Marine Aircraft Group 12 of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing was to prepare to enter the bacteriological program. First the ADs (Skyraiders) and then the F-4Us (Corsairs) were to take part in the expanded program, initially, however, only as substitutes for the F-7 Fs. When called upon, these planes were to fly out of K6, their base at Pyongtaek, Korea, and bomb up at K8, the Air Force base at Kunsan. Later, if formations were involved with special bombs, planes could then rendezvous with the remainder of the formations on the way to the target. This was to delay as long as possible, the need of establishing a bacteriological bomb supply at K6.

General Jerome further reported that 5th Air Force required Marine Photographic Squadron One to continue their current bacteriological operations, operating from K3 (Pohang). At the same time, Marine Aircraft Group 33 at K3 was placed on a standby, last resort, basis. Owing to the distance of K3 from the target area large-scale participation in the program by Marine Aircraft Group 33 was not desired. Because the F-9 Fs (Panthers) would only be used in an emergency, no special bomb supply would be established over and above that need to supply the photographic reconnaissance aircraft. Bombs could be brought up from Ulsan in a few hours if necessary.

These plans and the ramifications thereof were discussed at General Jerome's conference and arrangements made to transmit the directive to the officers concerned with carrying out the new program.

It was decided that Colonel Wendt would initially transmit this information to the commanders concerned and that details could be discussed by the cognizant staff officers as soon as they were worked out.

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THE next day then, 26th May, Colonel Wendt held a conference with the Commanding Officer of Squadron 513 and, I believe, the K8 Air Base Commander and the Commanding Officer of the 3rd Bomb Wing and discussed the various details.

The personnel of the 5th Air Force were already cognizant of the plan, having been directly informed by 5th Air Force Headquarters.

Since the plan constituted, for Squadron 513, merely a change of target and additional responsibility to maintain their own schedule of contamination of their area, there were no real problems to be solved.

During the first week of June, Squadron 513 started operations on the concentrated contamination belt, using cholera bombs. (The plan given to General Jerome indicated that at a later, unspecified date—depending on the results obtained, or lack of results—yellow fever and then typhus in that order would probably be tried out in the contamination belt).

Squadron 513 operated in this manner throughout June and during the first week in July that I was with the Wing, without any incidents of an unusual nature.

An average of five aircraft a night normally covered the main supply routes along the western coast of Korea up to the Chong Chon River but with emphasis on the area from Pyongyang southwards. They diverted as necessary to Sinanju or Kunuri and the area between in order to maintain the 10-day bacteriological replenishment cycle.

We estimated that if each aeroplane carried two bacteriological bombs, two good nights were ample to cover both Sinanju and Kunuri and a third night would cover the area around and between these cities.

About the middle of June, as best I remember, the Squadron received a modification to the plan from the 5th Air Force via the 3rd Bomb Wing. This new directive included an area of about 10 miles surrounding the two principal cities in the Squadron's schedule, with particular emphasis on towns or hamlets on the lines of supply and any by-pass roads.

Colonel Wendt later held a conference at K6 (Pyongtaek) at which were present the Commanding Officer, Colonel Gaylor, the Executive Officer and the Operations Officer of Marine Aircraft Group 12. Colonel Wendt informed them that they were to make preparations to take part in the bacteriological operations and to work out security problems which would become serious if they got into daylight operations and had to bomb up at their own base, K6. They were to inform the Squadron commanders concerned, but only the absolute barest number of additional personnel, and were to have a list of a limited number of handpicked pilots ready to be used on short notice. Colonel Wendt informed them that an air force team would soon be provided to assist with logistic problems, this team actually arriving the last week in June.

Before my capture on July 8, both the ADs (Skyraiders) and the F-4 Us (Corsairs) of Marine Aircraft Group 12 had participated in very small numbers, once or twice, in daylight bacteriological operations as a part of regular scheduled, normal, day missions, bombing up at K8 (Kunsan) and rendezvousing with the rest of the formation on the way to the target. These missions were directed at small towns in western Korea along the main road leading south from Kunuri and were a part of the normal interdiction program.

Colonel Wendt passed the plan for the Wing's participation in bacteriological operations to Colonel Condon, Commanding Officer of Marine Aircraft Group 33, on approximately 27th, 28th May.

Since the Panthers (F-9 Fs) at the Group's base at Pohang would only be used as last resort aircraft, it was left to Colonel Condon's discretion as to just what personnel he would pass the infomation on to, but it was to be an absolute minimum.

During the time I was with the Wing, none of these aircraft had been scheduled for bacteriological missions though the photographic reconnaissance planes of the Group's V.M.J. One Squadron continued their missions from that base.

SECURITY was far the most pressing problem affecting the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, since the operational phase of bacteriological warfare, as well as other type combat operations, is controlled by the 5th Air Force.

Absolutely nothing could appear in writing on the subject. The word "bacteria" was not to be mentioned in any circumstances in Korea, except initially to identify "Super Propaganda" or "Suprop."

Apart from the routine replenishment operations of Squadron 513, which required no scheduling, bacteriological missions were scheduled by separate, Top Secret, mission orders (or "Frag" Orders). These stated only to include "Super Propaganda" or "Suprop" on mission number so and so of the routine, secret "Frag" order for the day's operations.

Mission reports went back the same way, by separate, Top Secret dispatch, stating the number of "Suprop" bombs dropped on a specifically numbered mission.

Other than this, Squadron 513 reported their bacteriological missions by adding "via Kunuri" or "via Sinanju" to their normal mission reports.

Every means was taken to deceive the enemy and to deny knowledge of these operations from friendly personnel, the latter being most important since 300 to 400 men of the Wing are rotated back to the United States each month.

Orders were issued that bacteriological bombs were only to be dropped in conjunction with ordinary bombs or napalm, to give the attack the appearance of a normal attack against enemy supply lines. For added security over enemy territory, a napalm bomb was to remain on the aircraft until after the release of the bacteriological bombs so that if the aircraft crashed it would almost certainly burn and destroy evidence.

All officers were prohibited from discussing the subject except officially and behind closed doors. Every briefing was to emphasize that this was not only a military secret, but a matter of national policy.

I personally have never once heard the subject mentioned or even referred to outside of the office, and I ate all of my meals in the Commanding General's small private mess where many classified matters were discussed.

IN the Wing, our consensus of opinion was that results of these bacteriological operations could not be accurately assessed. Routine methods of assessment are by (presumably) spies, by questioning prisoners of war, by watching the nightly truck count very carefully to observe deviations from the normal traffic, and by observing public announcements of Korean and Chinese authorities, upon which very heavy dependence was placed, since it was felt that no large epidemic could occur without news leaking out to the outside world and that these authorities would, therefore, announce it themselves. Information from the above sources is correlated at the Commander-in-Chief, Far East level in Tokyo, but the overall assessment of results is not passed down to the Wing level, hence the Wing was not completely aware of the results.

When I took over from Colonel Binney, I asked him for results or reactions up to date and he specifically said, "Not worth a damn."

No one that I know of has indicated that the results are anywhere near commensurate with the effort, danger and dishonesty involved, although the Korean and

Chinese authorities have made quite a public report of early bacteriological bomb efforts. The sum total of results known to me are that they are disappointing and no good.

I do not say the following in defence of anyone, myself included, I merely report as an absolutely direct observation that every officer when first informed that the United States is using bacteriological warfare in Korea is both shocked and ashamed. I believe, without exception, we come to Korea as officers loyal to our people and government and believing what we have always been told about bacteriological warfare—that it is being developed only for use in retaliation in a third world war.

For these officers to come to Korea and find that their own government has so completely deceived them by still proclaiming to the world that it is not using bacteriological warfare, makes them question mentally all the other things that the government proclaims about warfare in general and in Korea specifically.

None of us believes that bacteriological warfare has any place in war, since of all the weapons devised bacteriological bombs alone have as their primary objective casualties among masses of civilians—and that is utterly wrong in anybody's conscience. The spreading of disease is unpredicable and there may be no limits to a fully developed epidemic. Additionally, there is the awfully sneaky, unfair sort of feeling dealing with a weapon used surreptitiously against an unarmed and unwarned people.

I remember specifically asking Colonel Wendt what were Colonel Gaylor's reactions, when he was first informed and he reported to me that Colonel Gaylor was both horrified and stupefied and said he'd like to "turn in his suit." Everyone felt like that when they first heard of it, and their reactions are what might well be expected from a fair-minded, self-respecting nation of people.

Tactically, this type of weapon is totally unwarranted—it is not even a Marine Corps weapon—morally it is damnation itself; administratively and logistically as planned for use, it is hopeless; and from the point of view of self-respect and loyalty, it is shameful.

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Major Bley's Statement

I AM Roy H. Bley, Major, U.S.M.C., Serial No. 010450, age 39, married with two children. My home is at 1333 Orange Avenue, Santa Ana, California, U.S.A. For approximately five weeks, until I was shot down in North Korea on the 8th of July, 1952, I was Ordnance Officer on the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing Staff in Korea.

The facts which I relate about germ warfare are written by my own free will.

I arrived in K-3, Korea, on the 28th of May, 1952, and was assigned as 1st M.A.W. ordnance officer on the following day, the 29th. The previous Wing ordnance officer had departed for the States in the early part of May, 1952, leaving the job to be handled by a Master Sergeant, McGarry, the Ordnance N.C.O., who had worked for him, and who had been on that job for several months.

On the night of the 2nd of June, McGarry and I were working along in the Ordnance Section of the G-4 (Logistics) office discussing normal, routine ordnance matters, and he briefing me on the details, problems and procedures of my job. That night he told me the main facts about germ warfare as conducted by the Wing at that time.

He reported that V.M.F. 513, Marine Night Fighter Squadron 513 located at K-8 was dropping germ bombs for the 3rd Bomb Wing there. They had started dropping them early in 1952. The ordnance men from V.M.F. 513 had been trained and assisted in the use of germ bombs by special weapons personnel of the 3rd Bomb Wing and the Squadron's supply of the weapons was made directly from the K-8 bomb dump, operated wholly by Air Force personnel.

Later, in March, 1952, V.M.J. 1, (Marine Photographic Squadron 1 of Marine Aircraft Group 33) also began dropping germ bombs. Ordnance men had been assigned to the Squadron from the Group for that specific purpose, forming a Special Weapons Unit, and had been given two weeks training prior to the Squadron's first use of the bomb by an Air Force special weapons team sent to their base from K-8. This team consisted of two officers and six enlisted men and had instructed the ordnance men on handling procedure, storage and security methods. Then the team had remained with the Squadron for two or three weeks after the Squadron had initiated its use, to supervise and continue their instructions.

THE first supply of germ bombs for Squadron V.M.J.1 had been ordered from the 6405th Air Support Wing of the Air Force located in Taegu, and picked up at their Ulsan Ammunition Supply Squadron 543rd dump by the ordnance men of V.M.J.1 accompanied by members of the Air Force special weapons team.

Security methods, especially in its first stage of use in K-3 (Marine Aircraft Group 33's base at Pohang, Korea) were very stringent. The only persons who knew of its use were some members of the Wing staff, the Group and Squadron Com-

Major Roy H. Bley, U.S. Marine Corps, recording his deposition.

manders, pilots flying the missions, the Group Bomb Dump Officer and Ordnance men who made up the special weapons team and who actually handled all the transportation and did the loading of the aircraft.

The supply of the germ bombs was handled by the V.M.J. 1 Special Weapons Unit who went directly to the 6405th A.S.W., with a priority secret dispatch.

On the morning of the 5th of June, 1952, Colonel Clark, Logistics Officer of the 1st M.A.W. called me into his office where he was alone and asked about my progress in becoming familiar with the Ordnance job. After discussing several routine ordnance matters he hesitated for a while, shuffled through some papers on his desk, walked around his desk a couple of times and then said, "Now, Bley, for the main reason I called you in here. It's to discuss the Wing's special weapons project, the use of the germ bomb." After he sat down again at his desk he asked, "Has McGarry discussed it with you?" I replied that he had, briefly. He then said, "In order to bring you up to date on its use out here, I'll give you a brief history regarding its previous use."

The Air Force started dropping the bombs, upon order from their high command in Washington in the early winter of 1951, first with the B-29s based in Okinawa, followed by the 3rd Bomb Wing's B-26s at K-8 (Kunsan, Korea). Then fighter types were also included into the use of them too and that included Marine Squadron 513, also based at K-8.

This Squadron, attached to M.A.G. 33, using F7F (Tiger Cat) aircraft, was included in the project by the Air Force for these reasons: they were a night fighter squadron and could drop the bombs with a great deal of security; they were based at K-8 where the supply of bombs were available; and the Air Force high command decided that some experimentation and familiarization work by a Marine squadron would be very helpful to Marine aviation and themselves should the germ bomb be used on an increased scale. This experimentation and familiarization would not only afford experience to flight crews but also to the ordance men who would help the Air Force special weapons personnel in handling details and procedures.

Squadron 513 started using germ bombs right after the first of the year, 1952, and then Squadron V.M.J.1 also was added to the program by the Air Force in March, first, because they were a utility outfit doing mostly photographic work and could drop the bombs without being suspected: second, during their normal work they covered all parts of North Korea, and third, Special Weapons personnel were available at K-3, their base, to form a nucleus of handling personnel required.

Then he paused and asked, "What do you think of the use of the germ bomb?" I said, "Sir, it's not only against my own principles but it would also certainly leave a black mark against the Marine Corps' reputation." The Colonel said he didn't approve of its use either, nor did anyone else in the Wing, but we were ordered to do so by higher authority and there was nothing to do but obey our commands.

Colonel Clark then told me that General Jerome, Commanding General of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, had attended a conference at the 5th Air Force Headquarters during the latter part of May and a plan had been introduced to him where the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing was to participate more fully in the use of germ weapons. Then when General Jerome returned to K-3 he had called a staff meeting including the Assistant Commanding General, Lamson-Scribner; the Chief-of-Staff, Colonel Schwable; Intelligence Officer, Colonel Stage, to the best of my memory; Operations. Officer, Colonel Wendt, and himself. General Jerome had discussed the plan in detail and had outlined the tasks and missions for the various G sections to do. During this conference it was decided that I, as Wing Ordnance Officer due to arrive three days later, would have to be informed of the plan for I would have to handle many of the details for the Logistics Section.

Colonel Clark then pointed out that during the conference the target areas were also discussed. It was decided by J.O.C. (Joint Operational Center) that a contamination belt was to be established deep behind the enemy line, across the peninsula of Korea and covering the enemies' main routes of transportation.

So both of our Groups, Marine Aircraft Group 33 and Marine Aircraft Group 12, were included in the plan, Squadrons V.M.J. 1 and V.M.F. 513 of M.A.G. 33 were to continue on an increased scale, and the F9F (Panther) Squadrons of M.A.G. 33 were to get prepared to use germ bombs and be on a standby status, ready should they also be ordered to drop them by J.O.C. The ADs (Skyraiders) of M.A.G. 12 were to start immediately on a small scale by flying to K-8 for their supply of germ bombs and operating from there until some special dispensers arrived from the States and then they would operate on a large-scale with their supply of bombs to be from the bomb dump of their own base, K-6 at Pyongtaek.

Colonel Clark then outlined several items he wanted me to accomplish for him as soon as I could.

To contact the 6405th Air Support Wing, at Taegu, and arrange for a conference with them regarding the increased usage supply of bombs at K-3 and to make arrangements for eventual supply to K-6.

To check on the storage facilities at both K-3 and K-6.

I was also to check on the security methods in the M.A.G. 33 bomb dump where germ bombs were stored and to have the M.A.G. 12 Bomb Dump Officer to be prepared for increased security when his supply of bombs was established. Colonel Clark stressed the fact that utmost caution was to be used in security. He stressed that nothing was to be issued from the Logistics or Ordnance sections in writing, that all instructions and supervision was to be made verbally with the exception of the required requisitions and reports. Colonel Clark's final remark, before I left his office, was, "Bley, I know this is an unpleasant assignment, but I expect you to carry out your part of the project to the best of your ability."

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ON the 9th of June, McGarry and I drove to see the M.A.G. 33 Bomb Dump Officer and inspected his facilities for the germ bombs, which were satisfactory He explained to me that the bombs were requisitioned by the Special Weapons Unit direct from the Air Force.

I advised him to make more storage space available because the usage rate was to be increased and will probably have to handle two or three times as many bombs as he previously had.

On the 13th of June I went to K-6 to inspect the M.A.G. 12 bomb dump and to talk to the Group Ordnance Officer about his plans for his eventual storage of germ bombs there.

I asked him if he knew of the proposed use of the Special Weapon, the germ bomb, by M.A.G. 12. He replied that he had been told of it by Colonel Gaylor, the Group Commander, about 10 days before. Colonel Gaylor had told him that the supply of bombs was not to be established yet for a few weeks. Before the supply of bombs were to be handled at K-6, the Group would have to have some men trained in handling procedures. Colonel Gaylor had ordered him to select about 10 men from his bomb dump crew, men who were reliable and who he considered would be able to pass a secret security classification check, but not key men in his regular bomb handling crew, and send them to K-8 where they could be given on-the-job training by the 3rd Bomb Wing. These 10 men had been sent to K-8 on the 11th of June for a period of about four weeks.

I checked on storage arrangements and security of information. I reported how Squadron V.M.J. 1 drew their germ bombs but said I'd have more information on that after Colonel Clark and I conferred with the Air Support Wing personnel in Taegu in a few days.

Finally I gave him instructions to go down to K-3 and see the setup there and also to go to K-8 when he found time to see their storage methods.

On the 16th of June I flew to Taegu to confer with the 6405th Air Support Wing regarding the increase in supply of germ bombs to the first M.A.W. Colonel Clark was unable to come with me. The conference was held in the office of the Commanding Officer of the 6405th A.S.W., where I also met the Ordnance Officer.

I learned that the 6405th A.S.W. had been supplying the germ bombs to the 3rd Bomb Wing at K-8 since December 1951, at first in small quantities and then in larger deliveries. Delivery to K-3 had commenced in March of 1952.

The Commanding Officer stated to me that Feamoom (Far East Materiel Command) had notified him about the 1st of June that the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing was to increase its use of germ bombs at K-3 and was also to establish a germ bomb supply at K-6.

I went over all the details of requisitioning and delivery, coding, types and reports.

We agreed that Squadron V.M.J.I. would continue to send their own requisitions for germ bombs until the germ bomb dump was established at K-6, and then all requisitions for both groups would be made by me from 1st M.A.W. Headquarters. That would be around August. I passed all these decisions on to Colonel Clark and the other officers concerned, verbally.

On the 7th of July, Colonel Clark notified me that he was calling a conference of M.A.G. 12 and M.A.G. 33 Logistics and Ordnance officers and some officers of the Special Weapons Unit of Squadron V.M.J. I to be held on the 10th of July to discuss the problems arising out of the increased use of germ bombs. Next day I made a trip to K-6 with the 1st M.A.W. Chief-of-Staff, Colonel Schwable and had a preliminary talk with the Group 12 Ordnance Officer. He told me that he would be ready to establish a germ bomb facility there as soon as the team to handle them had completed their training at K-8. This would be around the 12th of July.

On this same day, July 8, 1952, on my way back to K-3 from K-6 with Colonel Schwable, we lost our course and were shot down by ground fire behind the front lines in North Korea.

HSINKANG—North China's

New Artificial Port

SEVERAL empires of the modern world, among them the Japanese and the American, have cast covetous eyes on the riches of North China. To hasten the exploitation and despoilation of the land, the Japanese, in 1939, started construction of what was to be a vast new harbor at Tangku, connected by rail and highway with Tientsin, the leading industrial city of North China.

The project was tremendous, requiring a prodigious amount of manpower, money and materials. Many Chinese workers died of hunger, disease and exhaustion from forced labor. No adequate preparations had been made beforehand; lack of technique and financial difficulties caused the Japanese to curtail their original plans, and although 200,000,000 Japanese yen were spent, less than one-third of the harbor was completed when they surrendered.

After the war, the Kuomintang compradore government turned the harbor over to the Americans, who planned to use it as a naval base. Although work was supposed to continue, little was done. In fact, KMT bureaucrats took out more than they put in, stealing machinery and other equipment for sale on the black market. And on the eve of liberation, they carried away all the modern dredgers they could move, wrecking and scuttling the rest.

Only the resistance of the harbor workers and the swift arrival of the People's Liberation Army saved the harbor from complete demolition. However, through neglect and wilful destruction, the KMT had pretty well achieved its aim. At the time of liberation, even 3,000-ton vessels could not enter the harbor, as all the channels were silted up.

After liberation, the government decided to go ahead with the building of this harbor —Hsinkang—which will serve nearly 100,000,000 people living in an area of more than 2,000,000 square kilometers.

The workers on the project greeted this announcement with great fanfare and pledged to carry out the job as quickly and skilfully as possible. They realized that they were not building for the Japanese invaders, nor for war, but for their own country and for peace.

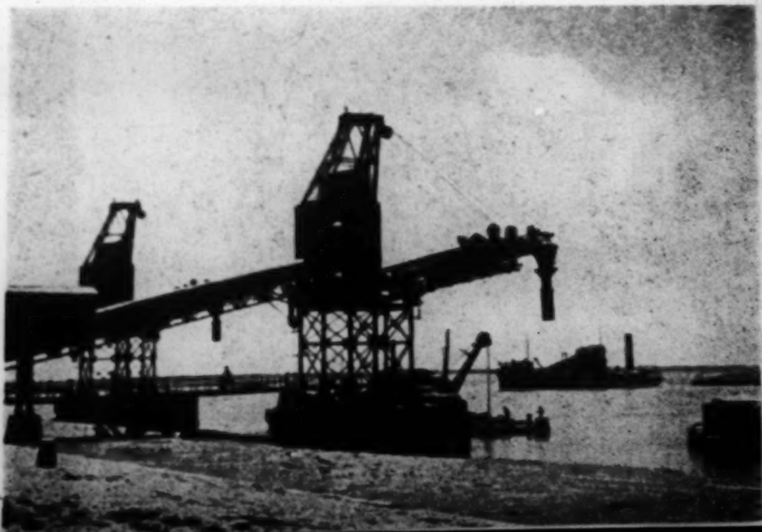
When work began in June 1949 one of the first tasks was to raise and repair the 200 dredgers sunk by the Kuomintang on the eve of its flight. From the very beginning the new spirit of the workers was noticeable and a number of model workers emerged during this initial salvage operation.

One of the most outstanding was Feng Tai, an old diver who had been a worker for more than 40 years. Despite his age (66), he led the divers in raising a scuttled 800-ton chain bucket type dredger in the record period of five months. At the same time, he carried on a training class for young divers, thereby helping overcome the shortage of workers skilled in this line. For his meritorious service, he was awarded the title of "old hero" and elected the first model worker of Tientsin.

Construction of so huge a project was new to the Chinese workers. In the past, the country's harbors had been in the hands of foreigners. Harbor engineers and experienced workers were lacking. Moreover, the original blueprint of the harbor had been destroyed by the Japanese.

However, work went on. Professors and water conservancy experts in Peking, Tientsin, Tangshan and Shanghai lent a hand in drawing up

Freight tonnage has increased and new harbors are being built along China's coastal areas, one of which is seen under construction here.



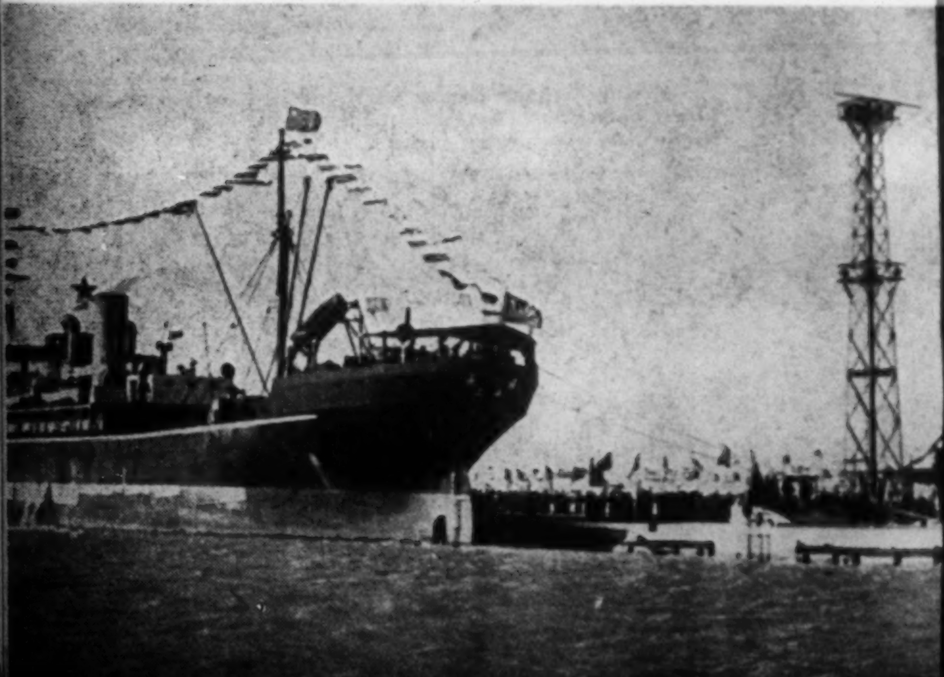
new plans. Many experts were dispatched to the construction site from time to time, and some of them took up posts as advisers to the harbor construction committee.

Ma Chin-cheng, manager of the Hsinkang machinery repair workshop, devised a new method called "speedy training of apprentices," which enabled an unskilled worker to master complicated techniques after only six months of training. This basically solved the problem of the shortage of technical workers.

Emulation and competition drives speeded up construction. At the beginning, for instance, the workers could drive only one pile a week with a three-ton steam hammer—at which rate two years would be required to finish this job. As a result of nine innovations proposed by the workers, the rate went up from one pile per week to 18 piles per day.

In the past, dredgers were obliged to stop for about two hours while the hammer was removed. However, Lu Wen-shing of a dredgers' crew invented a method by which a dredger could continue to work during the removal of

The 10,000-ton S.S. 'Changchun' anchored at the No. 1 pier of Tangku Harbor when the harbor was officially opened last October.



the hammer.

As a result, two or three times as much sludge was dredged as under the Japanese, and the volume per hour also increased by 100 to 150 percent. Ninety percent of the work in the harbor was done by machines. One of the largest dredgers in China was used in this work. It has a capacity of 58,000 cubic meters of sludge per day, equivalent to the work of 18,000 men.

To speed up excavation of the channel, the workers made huge discharge-pipes for use with the dredgers. These pipes were made out of steel plates and scrap iron left lying around by the fleeing KMT. The men soon became expert at making these pipes, saving the time and expense of ordering them from Shanghai or Mukden.

The creativeness and ingenuity of the workers reflects their new life. They are living in new, comfortable red-brick houses instead of the former windowless mud huts. They have canteens, bath-houses, and a clubhouse; they have dramatic troupes and a band. On Saturday evenings they and their families relax with films, plays, concerts and dances. For the first time in their lives, they have plenty of wholesome food.

The new harbor is one of the world's largest sheltered ports, and it was completed on October 17, 1952. It covers 18 square kilometers enclosed by breakwaters. Navigable canals were made deeper, an undertaking equivalent to dredging a canal 35 yards wide and four yards deep from Philadelphia to Baltimore. Many miles of sea were turned into land by dumping rubble to the volume of 15,000 freight-car loads.

Ocean-going vessels no longer need anchor several miles out and have their cargoes taken off by lighters and towed up to Tientsin. New wharves, warehouses and railway lines have been built.

North China's rich resources, including iron and coal, not only occupy an important position in China's economy, but also are well-known on the international market. North China has an exportable surplus of coal and charcoal for which there is a demand in Japan, Hongkong, and other places. The area's cotton production equals half of the country's total output. Other products of China's North and Northwest are salt, petroleum, wheat, wool, leather and other animal products.

Today, China's industrial and agricultural production has far surpassed the pre-war level. This new large-scale harbor will greatly facilitate North China's international trade.

BOOKS OF INTEREST

CHINA TODAY. Pandit Sundarlal. 681 pages, including Individual Impressions by members of Indian Goodwill Mission to China. Hindustani Culture Society, Allahabad Rs. 7-8-0 or 15 s. Reviewed by D. F.

THIS is by no means "just another book" about China. The fact that it is written by an Indian makes it of special interest not only to other Indians, but also to the citizens of outside countries. As one turns the pages of this exceedingly interesting and informative book, there unfolds not only the vista of situations as they are in China, but also in India.

The author analyzes and compares conditions, stressing points of similarity and dissimilarity, and showing clearly where the Indian people stand in the world today, and in which direction they are facing. Let arrogant Westerners still panting to assume the White Man's Burden ponder on the deep bond of sympathy between these peoples, the Chinese and the Indians.

"We are compelled to talk of Asian unity because of the terrible sufferings which most Asian countries had to undergo and are still undergoing at the hands of western imperialists . . . India and China stand united not only for their own freedom and integrity, but for the freedom and integrity of Asia . . . " Consider that in the light of the official US plan to "use Asians to fight Asians."

Discussing a wide range of subjects, in 404 pages, the author narrates and describes what he himself saw in his several thousand mile, 40-day trip through China. The book also gives individual impressions by 12 other members of the Indian cultural mission which visited China in 1951.

Among the Goodwill Mission were followers of Gandhi, Socialists, Muslems, educationalists, and one woman, Mrs. Hannah Sen of Dehli. All of them have particular interests and looked for them during their tour.

Dr. J. C. Kumarappa, for instance, who is interested in village industry and sees an industrialized country as a threat to the individual's freedom, took great note of China's cottage industries, but expressed fear of the country's emphasis on industrialization.

With such a wide range of viewpoints, it is interesting that all agreed on some basic things they saw in their tour. One thing that greatly impressed them was the role women are playing in China today. Also, each one commented on the simplicity in style and manner of China's officials and the fearless exposure of graft and corruption which gave China a government unsurpassed in honesty.

The one subject that impressed them most of all in China was the amount of food. R. K. Karanjia, editor of India's largest English-language weekly, refutes the arguments of Americanized Indians who will say that the Chinese people were made to starve in order to spare rice for India. "Let me tell them, however, that we have seen the Chinese people eating. We have gone out of our way to take meals with farmers in their cottages, factory workers in their canteens, even coolies in their humble huts; and we can assure them that the Chinese people today eat more food of greater variety and better vitamin value than not only their prototypes in India, but in Western Europe and Britain as well."

Land reform increased not only food production but also the production of raw material for industries. K. A. Abbas of Bombay, editor, author and art critic, quotes Vice-Chairman Liu Shao-chi to the effect that imperialism has been driven from China, which means that the key to China's front door is in the pocket of the Chinese people, and China's raw materials will first of all supply the needs of her own industry . . .

Among other subjects touched were discussions on private industry, industrial wages, medical services, people's courts, literature, non-violence, and Sino-Soviet relations.

Early in the book, Pandit Sundarlal gives illustrations of how the formerly oppressed classes are shown that the country belongs to them. They are taken in buses and motor trucks to parks and summer palaces, formerly reserved for the wealthy and the aristocracy. "Thus the people feel the glow of Liberation. Government officers here regard themselves as workers and as the people's servants."

V.K.R.V. Rao, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences of Delhi University, felt forcefully that "a whole nation had awakened and was on the march," and when T. Chakravarti, professor of Chinese history at the University of Calcutta writes of China, he writes as an authority.

It would be fitting to close this review with Pandit Sundarlal's words, a stern admonition to imperialists: "My attitude and the attitude of all Indians is determined by two simple principles. Firstly, the Chinese are not only the exclusive but also the best and the only judges of the form of government they should have. Nobody else has any business to interfere in this matter."

NEW CHINA AT A GLANCE.

Varkey Santhistan. 51 pages. New India Publications, Kottayam. 8 annas.

THIS breezy booklet, by one of the Indian delegates to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference, is just what its title implies. It is a running commentary on the author's trip through China last autumn, following the peace conference in Peking. An excellent little booklet, well worth buying in quantity to send out to one's friends who should know more about new China—as who should not?

One adverse criticism is that the book is replete with typographical errors, which it is to be hoped will not appear in the following editions. Nothing should be allowed to detract from the enthusiastic story the author has to tell of new China and its people.

He has crammed a world of information into 52 pages, and covered in miniature most of the subjects dealt with in "China Today." The author writes with many touches of humor; for instance, the hard time he had getting rid of an unwanted article, because of the stubborn honesty of the Chinese people, who insisted on returning it to him.

He can be deadly serious, too, especially when contrasting wretched conditions in his own country, under growing American interference, with the progress in new China.

Report to Readers

WHILE there is nothing funny about the Witch Hunt in the United States, the spectacles it presents are sometimes not entirely devoid of humor. One of the government agencies currently under investigation by a sub-committee headed by Senator Joseph McCarthy is the Voice of America, which for the past few years has gone to considerable pains to explain to its listeners that the Witch Hunt is not a witch hunt but an orderly legal investigation which only Communists and other "traitors" had need to fear.

Well, now, let's see how this "orderly legal investigation" works out in the case of the Voice. After the first four days of testimony, committee members said the situation looked "rotten," and that they suspected there had been "sabotage" designed to make the Voice's broadcasts ineffective. Now this *is* confusing. The Voice has been telling us what a good thing the Witch Hunt is and now along comes a committee headed by one of the country's outstanding witch hunters who says the Voice's broadcasts have been "rotten" and "ineffective."

But this is only the beginning. An *Associated Press* dispatch describing one day of the hearings reveals that a couple of former Shanghailanders appeared before the committee. They were John C. Caldwell and W. Bradley Connors who were stationed here as chief and assistant chief, respectively, of the United States Information Service in the immediate post-Japanese War days.

Caldwell, son of missionary parents, was an affable and persuasive young second generation "China expert" who, after entering government service during the war, rapidly climbed up the ladder. In the course of only a few years he rose from one position to another until he was named acting director of the entire USIS operation in China.

Connors, a character right out of "Front Page," was a hefty, chain-smoking young newspaperman who also joined the government information service during World War II. Arriving in Chungking toward the end of the war, he likewise proved adept at office politics and in short order shouldered his way up to No. 2 position under Caldwell.

This state of affairs was obviously about as stable as a pile of uranium. It was a no-holds-barred contest which finally ended with Caldwell being fired (as a result of a personal letter he had written—and which he claimed Connors swiped—falling into the hands of the US Embassy) and Connors getting the top job.

As to the politics of these two successful young government service careerists, they were fairly simple. Neither was particularly politically minded as both were far too busy perfecting their techniques in "office politics" to have much time left to concern themselves with political philosophies. However, both were fundamentally quite conservative in their general outlook, both were openly anti-Communist and both got their cues on the problems of the day from the FYI (For Your Information) policy guidance bulletins regularly issued to men in the field by top political strategists in Washington.

BUT back to the Associated Press dispatch describing the hearings before the McCarthy sub-committee:

"W. Bradley Connors, policy chief for the Voice, denied under oath Thursday he had leaked diplomatic secrets so they 'could reach the ears' of Chinese Communists. Connors also challenged testimony by a former colleague that he had favored the Chinese Communist regime. Connors said he has never been a Communist, a member of any fellow travelers' group or a Communist sympathizer."

Here we have the "policy chief" of the Voice (to which position Connors has now risen), the man who has directed the Voice to tell us that only the "traitorous Communists" have anything to fear from the "orderly legal investigation," himself squirming in the witness chair with the Witch Hunt's accusative finger leveled at him. Continuing, the *AP* dispatch gives us the explanation for this surprising and rather frantic disavowal of pro-Communist leanings by the

Report to Readers . . . .

arch-conservative, anti-Communist Connors.

"Connors entered his denials after John C. Caldwell, who had worked with him in China, termed him a 'very ruthless opportunist.' Caldwell said Connors had favored the Chinese Reds in an apparent hope that such a position would help him reach 'the top' in the Information and Propaganda Section. He said he did not doubt Connors' loyalty."

All of which might lead some people to the conclusion that in these days the Great American Witch Hunt, "office" politics can be just as risky as "Communist" politics. Meanwhile, we've got our ears glued to the radio to see how the Voice will handle this one. Either the Voice is full of "Reds" in which case we can't believe anything it's said for the past few years, or else something must be wrong with the Witch Hunt, in which case we still can't believe anything. . .

Where *will* this all end? Perhaps when Senator McCarthy and Senator McCarran accuse each other of being Communists and both are securely locked up.

* * *

WE'RE still operating on about one and a half cylinders in the editorial department with one editor out and another just now coming back on a half day basis. The result is that the editors' desks have virtually disappeared under piles of letters, newspapers and magazines and all the other things which seem to collect so rapidly in a newspaper office.

So once again we must ask readers and contributors to bear with us. We'll surely manage to clean it up one of these days and get off answers to the accumulated correspondence, but right now the mail is still coming in a lot faster than it is going out, so it will probably be some time before we're again on top of the situation.

All of which is contingent upon our one healthy editor remaining so during this period. On this score, we've got our fingers crossed since the one thing we have learned for sure by this experience is that jaundice is catching.

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